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# of Fever

The History of Fever may be seen at large in Vanswieten's Comment. on Boerhaave's Aph: §749.750.751.

Q: Phaenomena au Chaustis: -tic of a Fever? — The Ancients Supp- -posed, Heat, but this Doctrine is now de- -cried. Boerhaave makes it to consist in the Frequency of Pulse, altho' this is liable to a few Excep- -tions yet it deserves generally to be admitted. I am apt to think the Pathognomic Symptoms of a Fever consist rather in a Concurrence of Symptoms than in the Rate of Pulse

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alone. a Cold Fitt always precedes a Fever, and as the Heat itself and Frequency of pulse depend upon this, I think we ought to take in Cold as one of the most distinguishing Characteristicks of a Fever. — This Cold is produced by a Spasm of the Extremities of the Arteries.

This Cold is not founded on any Viscidity of the Liquidum Arteriosum nor on any other Affection of the Fluids as Vansweiten supposes ¶ 755. But depends entirely upon a weak Influx of the Nervous Fluid from ye Sensor: Commun: into the Organs of Sense, Motion, and

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those performing the vital & natural Functions. the Lassitude - weakness &c
w: w: Fevers begin plainly shew ye weaker Influx into the Organs of motion. the great Insensibility of the patient - ye weak and small pulse - ye Debility of the Heart - as also the Dyspnoea & Anxiety indicate that the Blood cannot be sufficiently evacuated, and that ye vital parts are affected. Vomiting & other circumstances shew that the natural Functions are injured in ye same way. all this taken together proves that there is an Inertia Liquidi Nervei or some

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Cause preventing & its Influx into ye different Organs w^h^ sometimes goes so far as to terminate in a total Cessation of the nervous Power, so that no hot Fitt succeeds at all as we see in some malignant Fevers, and we see that it is commonly in the cold Fitt of Intermittents that People die.

a Spasm on the Surface or Extremities of the Vessels is a Stith to form Fevers, and the very first Cause in such as arise from Cold. Thus a Spasm seems to form Fever, but can be produced too from external Cold. The Question now is, if Spasm is always ye Foundation

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of Fever? — It can in a certain Degree bring on Debility, for from topical affection without this, those Symptoms do very constantly appear. Debility may be previous to Occasion Spasm. thus passions of the mind as Fear may induce Debility, & this may occasion Spasm. many Contagions produce first a Debility. But we must allow that tho many Contagions induce first Debility, they often cannot induce Fever unless a stronger occasion of Spasm is applied i e Cold or Fear. [Vid: Lind on Fever and Infection] hence the Spasm may be looked upon as universal.

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How this Spasm may be the means of bringing on the hot Fitt we cannot consider now, and only will take it as a Fact. From w: has been said we see (a) Why Contagion, Cold & Fear may be the Causes of Fevers, and why they are most commonly the occasion of primary Fevers.

(b) Why Hamorrhagic tendency - inflam:-matory congestions - or increased Impe:-tus or Distention as in Rheumatisms may be likewise Causes to Fevers, but always of such as are attended with Topical Inflammation & therefore are Symptomatic, for the Overcoming of

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of Resistance or Distention always excites a Sense of Cold, as we perceive at times in making water, and as women in Labour always perceive during the time of their Delivery. —

Spasm then not only forms, but supports the Fever, the nature of Fevers depending upon the Spasm which must be known by its causes. —

of the Distinctions of Fevers.

The universal Fevers have been distinguished into the Continuents — Remittents — and Intermittents.

Continuents are supposed to exist not only for longer than 24 hours, but

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even for many days without any Exa-
=cerbation or Remission. But I doubt
greatly of the Existence of such Fevers
1st: Because I have seen 1000 Fevers, and
yet I never saw any such continual
Fevers, but always had either an Exacer-
=bation or Remission, and more com-
=monly both in 24 hours. Dr. Haen like-
=wise, and several other late writers
will not allow any such Fevers
2nd: If there is an Inflammation, Exacer-
=bations & Remissions distinctly are to
be observed.
3d: in Hectics daily Revolutions, and
consequently Exacerbations & Remissions

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are to be observed.

4ly: There is a daily Revolution in the human System wch: lays y^e^ Foundation in it cause of all periodical motions in the Animal Oeconomy, & must unsparingly influence Fevers.

5ly all Authors allow that Fevers run often in to one another. Continuals turn Remittents - Remittents Intermittents &c. now since two Types Remittents and Intermittents admit of Remission & Exacerbation it is evident that the more general & prevailing nature of Fever inclines to Remissions & Exacerbations.

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The Continuals are to be rejected therefore as never existing. there then remain only two Genera viz Remittents & Intermittents. every Fever in a continual Form belongs really to the Remittents.

It has frequently been a Question how far Remittents could be treated like Intermittents. I am afraid the Cases in W. Bath would be rare occurr too seldom in this Country. we may however give it W. the utmost Safety in all Cases where the Exacerbations are more distinctly marked, & preceded by a kind of cold Fit. —

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But there are other Characteristicks to distinguish Fevers preferably to Remissions, and which is of equally great use for the prognostics, & treatment to know.

The Spasm which occurs in all Fevers, and in which the Disease properly consists, has a share in producing Symptoms of Debility on one hand, and in producing an encreased action of the vital powers on the other. Hence there may be made a principal Distinction between Fevers viz: such where Debility, and such where encreased action of the Solids prevail. ——

It is therefore from the Symptoms of Debility and Spasm which we may form a

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Prognostic concerning the Resolution & Duration of the hot Fit, and determine the diffirence between the Genera, and even Species of Fevers especially Intermit=tents. For the more remarkable the cold Rigor be are, the less difficult will be y^e Solution of the hot Fit, - the sooner will the Intermission come on, & the longer & more remarkable will be the Intervals. this is the Case in Intermittents whose diffirent Species may be determined by these progn=nostics. on the other hand the less remar=kable & distinct the Symptoms of Cold are the longer the hot fit will last, and the more frequently y^e Paryoxism will be repeated as appear in Remittents. —

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The Distinction of Fevers as mentioned by Sauvage & others into Synocha & Ephemeras according to their Duration is very ill founded, and is it very doubtful if Duration gives any Character for distinguishing Fevers. Thus may be observed the same Duration in Fevers of quite opposite and different natures. & Fevers of one kind are often of a very different Duration. Hence tho' Epidemics are more distinguished by their Duration as well as their Symptoms, yet Duration is not so universally constant, as to apply it in a Nosologia. The only Distinction founded on constant and

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universal Character is according to the different tendency of the Spasm as producing either more Debility, or more encreased Action of the Heart. This now in England is the common distinction between Nervous & Inflamatory Fevers. This we grant applies clearly enough to many Cases, yet it is not sufficiently universal. a Fever may have all the Appearances of an Inflamatory in its first seven days, but in its 2nd and still more in its 3d it may put on all those of a Nervous Fever.

In Nervous Fevers there may again be made Subdivisions according to their

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remote Causes, as these may be Conta=
=gion Cold &c&c. thus when y^e Inoculā
has been produced by Contagion (w^ch
equally may happen in Inflam^n. as well
as Nervous Fevers) the Fever is in its
nature a putrid One. putrid Fevers
however do not always depend upon
Contagion. they may arise from
Debility itself, and we find putrid Fevers
in cold Climates & Seasons where there
is not the least Suspicion of putrid
Contagion.

Prognostics in Fevers

a Disease is supposed to be a Contest
between the Disease and Nature. we

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have considered two distinct States in Fevers Inertia & Spasm, & then enumerated Action of the vital powers. we have shewn that this latter may be looked upon as an Effort, or Conatus of this vis naturæ Medicatrix to remove the former now acording to the different Event of the Certamen between the Disease and nature (to use the Metaphor) as either Disease or Nature subdues its Adversary, we shall consider the Causes of Death as well as Recovery.

Causes of Death.

Life depends (a) on a mobility of the Nervous power i.e. on its Fitness to be

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moved from the Origin of the Nerves to the different parts of the Body, and from thence again to the Origin of ye Nerves (6) on the regular Distribution of this power to the different parts. hence we have two kinds of Causes of Death 1°: Such as destroy the Mobility of the nervous power 2nd: Such as interrupt its regular Distribution by affecting the Organs necessary to it. the latter are less Obscure, and more easily understood than the former. to the first head belong all those Causes of Death wch kill ye without any Alteration in the Organs, at least as far as we can perceive

by our Senses such as Lightning, Electricity
- mephitic Air - Joy Fear - and several
poisons wch prove suddenly mortal. it
is very difficult to explain how these
operate. we see that Opium only acting
on a single part destroys its Sensibility &
Irritability, hence we may conclude yt
Opium acting in sufficient Quantity
on the whole System operates by destroy-
-ing the Mobility of the nervous power. to
the 2nd Head belong such things as injure
the vital Organs, as the Brain, Lungs.

There may then be several Causes
of Fever when in a high Degree produc-
-ing Inertia & Debility wch likewise
produce Death by destroying ye Mobility

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of the nervous power without any evid.
alteration on the Organs. thus we
see that those who die of a Fever die
commonly in the cold Fit or in a time
analagous to it. hence Boerhaave &
Others have been wrong in supposing
Death always owing to the Excess of 4th hot
Fit, and have entirely overlooked this
first head. —

Causes of Recovery.

With respect to this there are two
Opinions 1.st the Hypothesis of 4th Ancients
and which the following Author very
universally copied was that in every
Fever there is a morbid Matter which

must be changed in its nature & assimi-
-lated, or thrown out of the Body which they
call Concoction & Excretion. —

Considering both these Hypotheses we
must remark the following points. —

(a) Fever may arise from Cold Dur
Congestion, Inflam: or Hæmorrage
alone without any morbid matter at
all.

(b) even in contagious Fever a
Spasm is evidently produced to overcome
which the Efforts of nature principally tend
whatever morbid matter there may be
thrown out.

(c) Where there is a morbid matter to

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be thrown out there is no Evidence of Concoction E. G: in the small pox the matter is no more changed than in any other Suppuration as from a thorn in the Foot &c.

(d) Whatever this Concoction may be we have it not in our power to promote or manage it or to correct 4ta morbid matter. E.G: in danger from Opium we only have it in our power to Obviate its Effects. in the Hydrophobia likewise no Body will think of correcting 4ta morbid matter or of promoting its Concoction.

(e) Wherever the Doctrine of Concoction is maintained, it is plain 2da: this requires

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a certain Duration wch some have deter-
-mined by the Analogy of fermenting Li-
-quors — the Maturation of Fruits &c.
but this Doctrine is quite confuted by an
Artificial Cure whereby safely & totally
a Fever is removed without giving the
supposd Morbid Matter any time for being
concocted.

Thus we have no Reason to admit
any morbid Matter, or at least we cannot
pay any Attention to it in ye Management.

The Prognosis in Fevers may be ta-
-ken either 1st from Circumstances ante-
-cedent to the Fever viz its Causes, or 2d
from the Circumstances combined and

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attending it viz: its Symptoms.

I. To the Causes of Fevers we refer (a) Contagion, (b) Concurrence of Cold & (c) of Fear. These are properly remote Causes, but become occasional in respect of (d) the State of the Body viz: from the Action of the Others (a, b, c) whence.

(a) Contagion is either strictly so dictum, or Miasmita i.e. either a Change of the Constitution of the Air or generated in the Body, & from thence transmitted into Another Body. Both Cases are very difficult to distinguish from each other. There may be a great variety in Miasmita, viz: would be

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impossible to ascertain. we only know that Contagion arises from putrefaction, and hence it appears that there must probably be a Difference according to the putrid matter being Animal or Vegitable, being accumulated in more or less Quantity, being either confined by Cold - diffused by winds - or excited by heat &c. we only here Observe that the putrid Exhalations of Marshy Grounds &c produce such a Contagion tho we cannot ascertain whether it depends more on Exhalation than Putrefaction. however the surface of water gives no such Contagion, as this is never found on the Sea Shores, nor in such

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Grounds as are quite covered wth water. at least the Diseases there are not of so bad a Tendency as where the water is not deep enough to cover the putrefying Filth of the Earth. Another Modification of putrefaction which seems to bring on Contagion is a Collection of Effluvia stagnating in a place as in Jails or Hospitals from whence the most Malignant Fevers arise. yet it is not to be determined if this are not only consists in a Mephitic Air at least confined wth Putrefaction. from wch we are able to know of ye several Modification of Contagion we may judge wch Tendency they will have, & where they we

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do not know the kinds of Contagion, y^e^ Effect alone must guide us. tho' these are very fallacious the same Contagion producing different Effects in different Constitutions when we find y^e^ Roman Epidemic $\frac{2}{3}$ are carried off we may generally conclude that it is of y^e^ worst kind, tho' it is different in different Individuals.

6/ Cold. little can be depended upon the Concurrence of this, as its Condition is only relative to the Body it Affects, viz to the Degree of Heat or Cold this Body is accustomed to. hence it is most diversified according to the hereditary condition of

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the Body it affects. generally it operates more considerably when it attacks suddenly than when by Degrees. a Body exposed to the now Degrees of Cold in a River would be less discased than one who was suddenly plunged in the water. tho' perhaps the Concurrence of Fear here would be a great deal. the Cold generally affects more considerably in the ~~Co~~ winter Season, than in ye warmer Ones cæteribus paribus. whatever Relation there may be between the Cold of the Body and Absolute Cold. - a transitory Cold will not have as considerable Effects on the Body as long continued Cold. Cold

the w. Moisture affects more evidently than cold dry air. perhaps ye moisture absorbed, and again exhaled adds to ye cold of the Atmosphere.

(c) Fear - this operates most suddenly and strongly when sudden than when gradual. to Fear it may be owing y: when an Epidemic comes on in a City a greater number die in ye first Beginning than when they are habituated to it. hence we see two the Reason why the nearer People are related to any Body y: dies, the more liable they are to be seized w: the same Disease. Fear affects more or less considerably

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according to the Degree of Sensibility &c.
Body affected is hopefull off.

(d) the State of the Body. may be reduced
only to two heads.
1 Debility. this disposes considerably to
the Operation of Contagion, Cold, and
Fear. thus Persons y^t have undergone
great Exercises of Body or mind, great
Evacuations, watchfulness, Debauch, Venery
&c are very liable to be affected by the
other three Causes. hence it is y^t putrid
Fevers occurr in cold seasons in our cold
Countries without any Suspicion of
putrid Contagion from Putrefaction.
2nd Irritability. this is not to be explained.

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nor can we tell the Reason why young People - Sanguine Temperaments, and we may say generally Female Sex are rather liable to be affected w: Fevers than Others. however here are many peculiarities to be observed. Robust people have a less Disposition to inflamat: Diseases, but suffer much greater Danger from those of a lax Habit. Young People have more frequent Fevers, but Melancholics have them worst. -

Prognostics from

II Symptoms. These may be considered 1st as to their kind & Degree & 2nd as to their Course. we have no occasion

II.

Of Fevers

now to speak of the 3d viz Accidental Symptoms. —

In treating of these we must have regard to the kind and degree of febrile Symptoms. it is a question in what manner of treating them would be most convenient. there are two ways 1st to point out the various Symptoms in general that are markt of either of the Above mentiond diffirent tendencies in every Fever. 2d to consider them each in particular, and to point out to which of those tendencies it belongs.

I shall here only consider y Symptoms as relative to the diffirent Functions of the Vital, Natural & Animal. —

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A Symptoms of the vital Functions.

(2) of the Action of the Heart. this is evidently, and distinctly known by the pulse. hence the chief mark of that is the Frequency of Pulse. this is owing either to encreased Irritation, or imperfect Evacuation. this latter depends on a Resistance in the Lungs or elsewhere or on a Debility of the Heart itself. 2d Frequency of Pulse depending on any Resistance or Debility is of equally bad tendency. when owing to Irritation especially a Spasm it is less dangerous than when it likewise arises from Debility. every Frequency of Pulse arising from Debility is bad. —

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Dr Haller says y: a feverish pulse begins
the w: 90, & when it exceeds 120 it is danger-
-rous. But I have often seen it below 30
& in Fevers of a very bad kind, & frequently
above 120 without any Danger. in time
of Remission when the pulse continues at
or even exceeds 120, the Fever generally has
a fatal Tendency, and when it comes to
140 & continues so it almost always
presages Death, unless it may be explained
by Age - Sex &c. or when we perceive any
particular Cause of Determination to the head
or any Irritation of the Brain as in the Phre-
-netic Delirium, patients may escape with
this Frequency of Pulse. When we have

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no Reason to suspect any nervous Debility or putrid Malignity a pulse under 120 is ge-
-nerally safer but fatal when these mentioned Circumstances are the Causes of its Slowness. When in a Remission 4ᵗʰ: is not critical, & when we are to apprehend any Exacerbations the pulse is slow, it often deceives us, especially in the advanced State of a Disease. thus I have seen a patient whose pulse from a considerable Frequency came down to 80 who was carried off in 4ᵉ next Exacerbation.

Of The Smallness & Hardness of the Pulse. in this Practitioners seldom agree according to their Feeling. we can better distinguish a full and soft than a small & hard pulse. the small pulse universally indicates Debility & the hard

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One Irritation. both are bad. the small is always so. the full give is always Security. no Person dies (certain Cases excepted) w.: a full pulse.

of The Equality & Regularity of the Pulsations. When these are alternated it is always a Sign of Debility or of Irritation. and in both Cases very bad.

(b) of Respiration.

(a) its Frequency depends on 4 Causes as the Frequency of Pulse or of the Action of 4: Heat which requires a quick Respiration for the passage of the Blood thro the Lungs. it is in every Case a bad Symptom, & commonly fatal whereas a slow Respiration is universally a good Sign One single Case excepted viz a Coma. —

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(b) Laborious Respiration arises from Obstructions in the Lungs, or from considerable Debility, & has a most fatal tendency

(c) full Respiration. This portends good provided it is without Labour.

(C) Heat & Cold may be referred to the vital Functions.

(a) Heat is always attended w: a frequency of pulse. Cold sometimes, but not ascertainly. encreased action of the Heart however is not always strictly connected w: Heat.

(b) Cold in the Extremities in after stages of a Fever is very dangerous, & is a sign of great Debility.

(B.) Symptoms of the natural Functions.

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The natural Functions do not concur actively in the vires naturæ medicatrices, — the Ancients supposed a Concoction &c necessary which was the Effect of ye natural Functions. but ye Doctrine we have rejected as we have no marks of ye procefs in nature, but such as may be explained from ye other Theory. the Lesions of the natural Function belong to

(2) The Appetites.

(a) Hunger when impaired in its various Degrees by want of Appetite. Loathing, nausea, & vomiting is always had acording to the Degrees now mentioned. vomiting for ye first days of a Fever is always bad. it is probable the Appetite is always connected with y^e^

State of the Perspiration. hence want of Ap-
petite is always a strong Suspicion of a Spasm
on the Skin.

6) Thirst is either a Symptom of ye cold Fit
marking a strong Constriction of ye extreme
vessels & hence bad, or of great encreased Heat,
or of Putrefaction wch is always bad especially
when other Circumstances concur to confirm
this Diathesis. it is said ye Thirst arises from
a Dissipation of the thinner parts of ye Fluids
in too large a proportion, but while Thirst
prevails there is commonly a much greater
Quantity of Fluids thrown in: tho there may
be Cases where Thirst arises from ye same as
in Dyarrhoa's, Dropsies &c. —

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(b) of the Excretions. these are Sputa, Feces Alvina, Urine & Sweat. -

(a) Feces Alvina. a regular belly and natural Stools show the mildness of the Disease. but Costiveness only yielding to medicines, & sometimes resisting them is a bad Sign, espec: as this is commonly a Symptom of Determination to the head. When the Evacuation by Stools appear spontaneously, moderate in Number of due Quality - not Colliquative or putrid it shows the Resolution of the Disease

(b) Urine. too much Redundance has been laid upon this by the Ancients. I shall only give you my own Observations in Regard to the Prognosticks from the Urine. —

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1st limpid pale coulourd Urine when inde-
-pendant of a Quantity of Liquid thrown in
is always a Symptom of strong Spasm, hence it
always attends the cold Fit of Fever. it is like-
-wise a particular Symptom of Determination
to the head.
2d: high coulourd Urine especially when
having a Sediment is more favourable.
3d: There is a certain middle State between the
two which is more favourable than either.
4th: turbid Urine is always a bad Symptom.
5th very transparent Urine when dusky
coulourd is always more favourable.
6th Pringle Observes a kind of Urine which I
have also seen. it is of a reddish coulour as
if it was tinged with a small Qu.y of Blood. It is

also as remarkable for its turbid Ap=
=pearance as its Colour.

7°: When high coloured Urine appears
in Clouds, it often turns limpid the 4th wont
any great Danger.

8°: Clouds in the Urine are only
good when the rest is transparent.

9°: Black Spots in the Clouds are al=
=ways favourable.

10°: When the Urine from being cloudy
turns clear, there often is a small Sedi=
=ment, like a Crystallization of Salt to be
to be Observed 4th w: is a favourable Symptom
in our Fever. —

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(c) Sweats

1°. Universal moisture is always better than a dry skin as it marks less Spasm

2°. Sweats that are partial, & not extended over all the Body are bad. They are worse in y^e^ upper parts.

3°. two profuse Sweats in ye Beginning of a Fever are bad.

4°. all cold clammy Sweats are bad

5°. Sweats are only useful when the pulse becomes slower & fuller after them. if this Sh^d^ not be the Case they should be interrupted.

(d) Haemorrhages may be referred to this head. they are much rarer Critical

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W: tis than they were W: the Ancients. the the

they are only favourable in young Plethoric patients, especially bleeding from the nose. all others as Hæmoptoes bloody urine &c are bad. even the Menstrua appearing in Fever at usual or unusual periods should always be checked, as I have never seen any good Effects from indulging their flowing. The Stillicidium is always bad, and may be considered on the same Footing as other Hæmorrhages from putrefaction.

16 / Symptoms of the Animal Functions.

The Debility of Motion is a Symptom of the Formation of Fever. hence Fainting

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upon an erect Posture, or lifting up the Head &c is a bad Symptom. a languid or dejected Countenance, or a Relaxation of the Muscles of the Face is a Symptom of Debility. the patients sliding down in the Bed always portends Danger.

Symptoms of Sensation

In considering different Objects we perceive a certain Relation between them, and in recalling certain Ideas we recall them in a certain train in ye Relation they had when they were impressed upon our minds. Whenever our Ideas recalled or formed not do follow a certain due train we call them incoherent, & when they are not acording to ye Relation we call

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them inconsistent. of this Inconsistence & Incoherence there are various Degrees. The 1st Symptom of interrupted Sensation is when thinking is attended wth uneasiness. 2nd: when in burning thinking we find Stops and Gaps in ye natural and ordinary train of the Ideas; when we meet wth Oblivion. this we call Confusion of Head. The other prognostics from ye natural Durations may be seen in Prosp: Alpinus.

[2/ we should go to consider the Symptoms of the Course of the Disease. the common Opinion has been y: a Fever was naturally of a certain determined Duration, wch was necessary to suppose for the Concoction of ye morbid matter, & which they imagined to be peculiar

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to every Species. But we have seen al-
=ready how ill founded this Doctrine is.
We and tho some Fevers have a certain
Duration, yet this is not constant, nor
universal enō to enter into y^e Character
of every Species.

Every Fever is in a constant motion tho'
not uniformly yet wth Regularity. so that
principal kinds are stated, and y^e decisive
Events happen at particular periods. this
leads us naturally to critical Dayr which
have been observed so regularly by y^e Ancient
Physicians. all Physicians sh^d be of a determ^d
Opinion wth Regard to the Existence of these
that they may better regulate their prinic:
=ples. For my part I believe y^t there are

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regular movements – y: the Crises of the Ancients are constantly true, and that tho' they are not so Observable here as they were in Ancient Greece, yet there is a general tendency to Regularity & Exact-ness in the Fevers of our Climates.

Our System both in Health & Sickness is disposed to periodical motions, as appears from our easily assuming periodical Habits. Our System is determined to the Vicissitudes of Sleep & Waking in which we most easily accustom Ourselves to certain Habits. we are very ready to Anx: for the Necessity of Sleep from y Change of Circumstances &c. But the Force of

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a peculiar Habit gets the better of all this. a weak man y: ch: therefore sleeps 7 hours will awake at the accustomed time tho' he ch: have gone to bed an hour before. hence we are accustomed to certain diurnal Revolutions w: may influence Fever too. Epilepsy - Asthmas - Hysteric & many other Spasmodic Affections commonly attack periodically. these are nervous Diseases, and as the Fever are commonly subject to periodical motions this serves still further to establish their being of a nervous nature. Intermittents are exact in their Periods. they easily change into Continuals, hence we must suppose y: in the change they transfer their regular periodical

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movements. When there is a constant Stimu-
-lus as in inflamatory & Exanthematic
Fevers, they appear in the Form of Remit-
-tents. See Dr Martin on Crises. —

The next Question is 1st Sort of periodical
motions occur in continual Fevers and
how far they are constant? This is
doubtful yet: the Objection is not confi-
-ned to the Moderns. even Asclepiades
mentions it, and Celsus repeats it after
him. but I believe the matter has been
carried too far by them both. 2dly Ancients
only plead for a general Tendency to
Regularity. we all agree 4thly & 5thly Mankind
Flux is periodical, tho' there is some Latitude
in this, many Irregularities every where
occurring, yet there is at least a universal

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Tendency to a regular periodical Discharge. — Thus there is also in Fever a universal Tendency to regular periodical Movements. That these may have often been neglected or mistaken is plain, as also y^n^: many Accidents may disturb their Regularity. many Circumstances are Obscure, & evade the Sagacity of the most accurate Observer. Thus frequently the first Attack passes unheeded, and when this is not mark'd our Reckoning is lost. — Hence when there must be a Foundation for critical days since there is such a general tendency to them we have often seen 1st that of all Facts none support Truth more strongly y^n^: that w^ch^: is in the train of Nature whose Oeconomy is disposed to periodical movements.

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2nd: That these Periods are founded on diurnal Revolutions. Thus in Tertians 3 of 4 will Attack at noon. Quartans regularly in the Afternoon from two to four Oclock. Hectics are observed commonly at night, and midday to have a remarkable Exacerbation, & so are not properly connected w: Meal time as is generally believed. I have seen them come on at 11 Oclock in the Forenoon. Dr: Robertson has observed y: the pulse is slow-est in the morning when People rise, it becomes quicker towards y Afternoon - at 5 there is a Remission - in y Evening the Frequency is manifestly encreased which continues till midnight when it

is quickest. Epileptic - podagric, & Asthmatic paroxysms generally attack about two Oclock in the Morning. we might imagin y: every Intermittent would turn continual, but a tertian only turns double because its principal Fit is not duly formed.

Every day of a Fever may terminate in Health or in death, as they have a daily Revolution, & the Fever by changing its Fits may change its periodical Movements. — But the proper critical Days are after the Aphorisms of Hippocr: y: are considered as the most Authentic of his writings / the 3d 5: 7: 9: 11: 14: 17: 20: & ad: Dr Martin. —

Of Fevers

The State of Physic however is still liable to Mistakes and Doubts. The Accidents are so various &c that there may yet be many Exceptions &c: general Rules.

The Followers of Hippocr: not only took the Facts, but would also would make general Rules & condemned all even days. — hence Asclepiades objected to them. the 1st: they insisted upon a Quaternio, & than a Septenarium. Asclepiades asks why the first week consists of 7 days, the 2nd of 8: &c. the Reason they alledged in answer to this was, that the End, or last day was the Beginning of the next Septenarius is certainly not well founded.

Of Fever

The more distinctly a Fever is formed, and the more fully the more Security there is. the less Distinction there is — Remission & Exacerbation the greater Danger, for Remission gives always some Security. but when after the 7th: day the pulse continues in w: its Fulness & Frequency, the Remission then gives more Security. One Exacerbation every day is dangerous, but two Exacerbations a day are more so. When Exacerbations are distinguished in w: Horror they are more safe than without it. When they are only marked by Debility and Smallness of the Pulse they are peculiarly dangerous. Most Fevers end fatally on the 11th: Days. Non that pass

of Fever.

over that day have then commonly a considerable Remission, and are of less dangerous tendency. every Evacuation ye happens on ye critical days of Hippoc: is more favourable than such as happen on the other days. the Appearances of ye Urine proving critical are therefore more to be depended on then. the most powerful days are the 7th. 11. 14. 17. 20. the 7th & 11th are more rarely to be considered as days terminating in Health, but from them the violence of ye Fever begins to abate gradually. the most perfect Resolution is when ye frequency of Pulse abates apace. thus I have often seen it brought down from 120 to 100, then to 80

and Lastly to Go. in the Course of such a Revolution the pulse Abates 20, or 30 a day. —

of the Cure of Fevers.

Nature must not be trusted in ye Cure of Fevers. her Efforts are often irregular Dangerous & fatal. the Physician is the Servant of Nature we grant, but then he must direct — moderate & Extend first her Efforts.

The general Indications of Cure then are viz.

1: To moderate the increased Action of the Arterial

2^ndly^: To Obviate Debility. —

These Indications are adapted to the different kinds of Fevers. the principal Distinction of these is into Inflamatory and Nervous. to the Inflamatory kind the 1st to the Nervous, the 2nd is adapted.

These Indications are answered, then 1st By Antiphlogistic Regimen - Bleding - Glysters - Refrigerants - & Diluents. the 2nd: By Diaphoretics - Vomits - Antimonials - Neutral Salts - cold Drinks - hot & cold Bathing - Blisters - Antispasmodics - and wine.

These are often intermixed, but it is most proper to speak of them first in particular, and then to point out the Circumstances

or Cases which require such or such of them.

1st. Antiphlogistic Regimen comprehends the whole of the Remedies answering the first Indication, but consists chiefly in avoiding every Irritation from Heat, Light - Noise - and particular Faults in Diet. The avoiding all Irritation is universally safe in all Fevers (a) Because we can but little judge of the Degree or Nature of Irritation, and therefore can apply it to the little safety in the 2nd Indication, (b) Simple Irritation even when considered as an Antispasmodic & in nervous Fevers proves often hurtful (c) we can only apply it in Intermittents to prevent an Accession, but

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in all Others it is hurtful.

As to Diet, Animal Food being stimu-
-lating to the System & beg: Diet much
less so, the former ought to be avoided
in Inflam: Diathesis, & in nervous
Fevers it likewise encreases y Tendency
to Putrescence. Some Abstinence from y:
kind of Diet is universally commendable
& necessary in Fevers.

2nd: Bleeding - in all encreased Action
of the Heart arising from direct Stimulus
Bleeding most efficaciously procures Relief.
There are however some Restrictions w: Re-
-gard to Bleeding - in Fever attended w:
marks of Debility, & where every Cause

of Fever

producing it is hurtful. Bleeding is improper. hence it is unsafe in all Intermittents, unless it is in those wch occur in the Spring of the Year which are commonly attended wth Inflam^y Symptoms. in Nervous Fever, and in the Jail Fever Bleeding has ye most pernicious Consequences. Bleeding sh^d never be used in ye cold Fit of Fever.

Topical Bleeding sh^d often be used for topical Inflamations. it relaxes wth out weakning the Patient.

3°. Glysters belong in a great measure to Antiphlogistics, as they

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remove the Irritation of hardned Faces, and acording to the state of ye Intestines are universally useful. they not only answer the Intention of evacuating the Faces, but of deriving ye Blood from the head. Cathartics as Evacuants are used wth the same Restrictions as Blood letting especially those y^t^ evacuate wth little Irritation. but they are of less use as their power in evacuating cannot be so easily determined. in Bilious Fevers of hot Climates they are very necessary. as Abdominal Obstructions do often happen there. the

# of Fever.

Antimonials. Where they act moderate-
-ly by Stool are useful, and very well
adapted to this purpose. —

4°: Refrigerants are Acids & Neutrals.

Acids when properly diluted are fitted
to quench the Irritation of Thirst, pre-
-vent the putrid Fermentation in the
Stomach & putrefaction in the System
induced by Debility or Contagion.

Neutrals will be treated of under Another
Head.

5°: Diluents. tepid water in promoting
the Action of the Stomach & Intestines
& the Circulation in y remote parts
& Secretories - in relaxing y System &

of Fever

perhaps diluting are here universally useful as having the least stimulus.

II. To this Indication viz: Abviating Debility belong ——

1°: Diaphoretics Sweat is y critical Evacuation generally employed by Nature, but we cannot always know whether and when this is to be imitated by Art. The Alexipharmics introduced have in general always proved unsuccessful, and the patients y: exhibited this method might be said to have been saved by the Fire. in Inflamatory Fever it is always hurtful to urge

of Fevers.

Sweats especially by heating Medicines. - the most safe diaphoretic in all Fevers is warm water. Sometimes a Draught of cold water is useful. But when warm water is given the Bed cloaths - Attendants &c must by no means consent to heat the patient not, as Stanley Infra: mentions fatal Consequences are often occasioned. - all Communications with water are either hurtful or useless.

2°: Vomits. Vomiting is a Symptom of the cold Fit, and when it arises from Spasm on the Surface it will commonly be removed by the hot Fit. it often depends on a Communication [illegible] this is

between the Stomach & the surface of the
Body. its Action has a powerful Effect
in determining to the Skin, & removing
Spasms there. hence it promotes a Dia-
phoresis. the usefulness of Vomits was
commonly ascribed to their cleansing the
Primæ viæ from the prevailing Doc-
trine of Pomes Morbi lodged in the
first passages, & from ye bilious Evacu-
ations. But this does not hold good as
we see y^t Vomits answer as well when
producing any Evacuation.

3°: Antimonials. these have been very
commonly used in Fevers since Chem^c
Remedies were first introduced into practice

Of Fevers.

Antimony as a Febrifuge has been given in various Forms. The power of Antimonials has been considered as depending on their Emetic Quality, but they do not act merely as Emetics, but by continuing the nausea they keep up the Determination to the Skin for a longer time especially when given in small Quantities & by Degrees. For when given as vomits they are hurtful by weakning, & are particularly so before the cold Fit. When given in small Doses they also Operate more effectually by Stool, and are therefore very well adapted to bilious Fevers where there Obstructions of the viscera &c being very convenient

topical Laxatives. The best Operation of Antimonials consists in Sickness, some purging & in procuring Sweat. of all the preparation of Antimony Tartar Emettic is the best, as being less acrid & of Mercur: Vitæ, more certain in its Done than the Regulus particles preparations, & less liable to vomit than ℥ij vinum Antimoniale. it is preferable to Ipec: unless where we are afraid of its stimulus as having a greater power of affecting the Surface. as to the time of its Exhibition it succeeds at all times, but it seems to do most Service when given just before the Exacerbations of the Fever. its Done is from 1 Grain to 2.

Of Fever.

2°: Neutral Salts. These are also consider-
-ed as Refrigerants. Nitre is so but not
in Consequence of producing Cold when
thrown into water tho' this Supposition
has been the Foundation of their use
both in Nervous & Inflam: Diseases. They
act by Affecting the Stomach & determining
to the Surface of the Body, as wd ye a draught
of cold water produces soon after a glow-
-ing Heat & proves an Efficacious Sudo-
-rific. we also" call ye Regenerated
is as powerful a Refrigerant as Nitre tho'
it generates Heat when thrown into wa-
-ter. The Modus Operandi of these Salts is

Of Fevers.

obvious. After a Dose of them a Sweat is often produced. They certainly remove some of the Effects occasioned by ye Spasm on the Stomach where they have Efficacious Antimetticks. But ye Choice of them is difficult. The Neutral Salts w: have a Muriatic Acid are powerful Stimulants, & therefore only to be used in Intermittents to obviate the Return of the Fit. They must be given before the natural paroxism comes on. Nitre is commended as a Refrigerant, but it is not only inferior to Acids in ye Vitriol, but often proves more Stimulant, & generally shu: not be used so freely. The

Of Fever

Preparations of ℥ are the safest Antie-
-metics. I find no difference between ℥ &
℥ Spr: Mind: and the Saline Mixture. they
ch: be given in sufficient Quantities. Re-
-generate ℥ is very useful as also ℥ of
Vitriol. but the difficult Solubility of
this last prevents its more frequent use
here

5.° <u>Cold Drinks</u>. these by determining
to the surface of the Body & thereby
producing Sweats have cured Fevers.
but from this Irritation they are
hurtful when there is topical In-
-flammation or even an irritative
Diathesis. But in nervous putrid

& bilious Fever they are very appli-
-cable.

6°. Cold Bath. this has been very much used in Silesia & Russia. it pro-
-ves by ye best Diaphoretic when the patient is directly put into a warm Bed. it acts in the same way as cold Drinks. and there may be cases where such a practice would be as useful as in putrid & petechial Fevers. Delerious people by getting into ye cold Air & throwing themselves into a stone pond have been cured. but such Cases are too few to establish so doubtful a Remedy in Fevers.

Of Fevers

7°: Warm Bath. This is a less precarious Remedy than the former. Heat & moisture combined are ye most powerful Emollients w^h: Respect to Animal Fibres, & Emollients are generally Antispasmodicks. This warm Bath must be more effectual as it is applied to the seat of the Spasm itself. Hence we sh^d: believe that it sh^d: be a universal Remedy in all Fevers. but in Fevers w^h: topical Inflam^n: the universal Spasm is only Symptomatic, hence it w^d: be of little use to take off y^e: while the particular Stimulus remained:

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and in the next place Heat is always a Stimulus and therefore will encrease Inflammation. But in Fevers without topical Inflam^{n}: depending on Univ: = ersal Spasm, or Spasm & Debility. The Antispasmodic & Stimulant powers of warm Bathing are particularly useful. Since they are indicated in the Nervous Fever vid: Dr Gilchrist. The Difficulty however of administring $\bar{y}$ Remedy is still greater than $\bar{y}$ Advan= -tages arising from it not only on $\bar{y}$: Cur^{n}: of the trouble &c but also $\bar{y}$: Patient often cannot bear $\bar{y}$: erect

of Fever.

Posture. Since it is commonly only in part employed, & this last on the lower Extremities, as here y greatest Spasm resides, & the least Irritation willenow from the Stimulus of heat on Acc: of the Distance of the heart &c It has been used for a long time, & even in more Shapes than we are aware of, for the Applying of living Animals cut Open belongs properly to warm Bathing. The warm Delirium has especially been practised in allages of Physic. it is however found that

warm Fomentation proves as effectual and as safe as Immersion. these warm Fomentations w: Blankets dipt in warm water I mean should be continued for several hours or they will do no Service.

8: Blisters are a very noted & effectual Remedy in Fevers but somewhat ambiguous. commonly they have been considered as Stimulants as they really are in some measure, but they are at the same time useful in topical Inflam: ns where all Irritation is hurtful.

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- hence they must have other Effects wch compensate their stimulating power. they relax the inflamed part when applied near it: in a Rheumatism &^c^ external pain & Swelling relieves the internal pain & Swelling. this relaxing power of Blisters is not owing entirely to the Discharge wch does not always take place, tho' it is encreased when attended wth Evacuations. in this Discharge no attention must be paid to &^c^ Quality of the evacuated matter, nor to any Sup=
=ed morbific matter thereby thrown out, but only the Evacuation shall be present

if the Blister shall effectually answer their relaxing purpose. Their Effect is always in Relation to the State of the neighbouring part, & the Tension of the whole System and y^e^ of a particular part are in mutual Relation to each other, and therefore they may lessen the Tension of the whole System by deminishing y^e^ of the part to which they are applied, & hence by this relaxing power they prove so useful in all Convulsive Powers.

Blisters however do stimulate in ye first Operation often in the first three

of Fevers

hours no Return of them is observed, & the Frequency of the Pulse not encreased, but in the next three hours this Effect will not fail to appear. The relaxing power depends greatly upon the Discharge: hence we see that after the first 24 hours when the Evacuation begins to diminish, a second Inflam^{n}: takes place attended wth new Symptoms often worse than the former. it formerly was believed the more painful a Blister was the more Benefit it would afford. but as long as the Cuticula lies it is no matter how long it is before the Blister be taken

off. but when the Cuticle is removed, the Skin laid bare, and a Resinous plaster (as is common) applied. the pain in Consequence of this will move a Stimulus, exciting greater Frequency of pulse, and rendering all the Symptoms worse Again. I have seen a patient die merely in Consequence of this unluckly Carelessness.

at a great distance from ye affected part inflam^y. Disorder Blister will prove hurtful as they produce an Irritation whereby the Inflam^y. Symptoms are encreased. on the contrary they are Applied as near ye part as possible with considerable Advantage.

of Fever.

In nervous Fever where there is great de-
-bility Blisters may serve as Stimulants,
but Lynapisms are preferable. many of
our inflamatory Fevers at length turn
nervous w: is Again a limitation of 2d y:
Early use of Blisters.

The Effects of Blisters are transitory ne-
-ver lasting Above 24 hours & therefore
they should be frequently renewed. to
prevent the Absorption of 2d y Canthari-
-des w: produces Strangury muslin-lawn
or paper shd be interposed between 2d y:
Plaister and the skin.

9o: Antispasmodics. the chief of these

Of Fevers

2 Opiates. ℔ w: are powerful in remo-
-ving Spasms and therefore must be of
use in Fevers. Opiates given before the
Accession are known to cure Intermit-
-tents. There have been Instances where
Delirium of the phrenitic kind was cured
by Opium gradually encreased to the
Dose of 5 Grains. Sure however there was
no Turgescence of the Vessels of the head,
nor was the pulse full. It is hard to tell
when Opiates shd be given. as they are
hurtful in topical Inflamations, I am
apt to think they use in continual
Fevers would be less safe. For their first
Effect being stimulating, & their next seda-
-tive

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th
w: leaves greater Irritability than there
was before. Hence a Stimulus will act a-
-gain th w: double force. it is therefore extreme-
-ly difficult to ballance between the
Stimulating & Antispasmodic Virtues. in
Order therefore to avoid this Ambiguity
th
we choose those Antispasmodics w: operate
as efficaciously & th w: more Safety. Thus
are Volatile Alkali - Camphor - and
Musk. we must exclude from Anti-
-spasmodicks all aromating and
heating Medicines such as Serpentaria
va
Contray: and other Ingredients of
Theriaca - Mithridate &c as generally
doubtful. 2nd Castor as it is more

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remarkable for its stimulating than
Antispasmodic qualities 3.ly Asafatida
w.h some Practitioners have a good Opi-
-nion of, but I have not found it more
-agreable w.h advantage. -
The Volatile Alkali is certainly Anti-
-septic & hence very suitable to putrid
Fevers. But tho' Doc. commonly gives it
insignificant as an Antiseptic but
it is also stimulant, & more stimulant
than Antispasmodic & hence must be
confined to the most pure cases of Debility.
But this Stimulants is more transitory &
hence of less inflamatory Tendency than y.e
Aromatics. —

of Fever.

c. Camphor. is still under some Ambiguity. under 5 Grains it seldom will have any good Effect. it is absolutely necessary to give it in larger Doses. under 20 Grains it never stimulates nor encreases the pulse. Above 20 gr. it has a Sedative power, but above ℈j it is a dangerous poison. From ½ to ¾ Grains it has an Antispasmodic power tho' different from that of Opium. I have seen it several times cure Delirium without topical Inflamation

d. Musk - the Antispasmodic Effects of this Remedy is established in Epilepsie Hydrophobie, & Other convulsive Disorders.

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When it fails we must accuse its being seldom had genuine. it commonly produces Sleep, and herein a profuse sweat.

10°: Wine is in some measure allied to Antispasmodics tho in many Respects different. it comes nearest to Opium by its Ardent Spirit. but is more safe as its stimulating Effects can be more easily determined. it is even less dangerous than its own Ardent Spirits because this is tempered in the wine by the admixture of veg: Acid & water. it is also less inflam: in its stimulus than either of these two or the veg: Acids.

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In Consequence of the Above mentioned Mixture it quenches Thirst - resists Putrefaction, & heals Open the Belly. given in Large Quantities it has the Sedative and Antispasmodic powers of Opium. in Fine as Wine is our Comfort in Health, do it is our Relief in Diseases. ——

The first Step in Practice is ascertaining or distinguishing Diseases, nor is it enough them by a general appellation, wch comprehends a great Variety of particular Diseases, but if possible to arrive at the Species: It is however unavoidable to throw Diseases into Classes. We must characterize these but sh: also proceed to their Subdivisions, & unless we arrive at the Distinction of Special Diseases, we have not gone the length necessary for Practice: not but on some occasions we must practise on genera, & perhaps we have often practised on Diseases as a Class. It is necessary then that these Nervous Diseases be subdivided into several Orders. They have been divided according to the Parts that are the chief Seat of the Phenomena; but the Seat of Diseases employed as a Distinction has been objected to. That however regards chiefly the internal Seat wch may be disputed; but when I speak of external Functions, the Phenomena there are external & evident. upon this footing these Nervous Diseases may be divided into 5 Orders. 1st Those that affect more purely the Sensorium Commune, or have their Seat in the Origin of the Nerves, & appear by

the Disturbance of the Intellectual Functions. They belong to that Class wch Sauvages has called Vesaniæ; but the Class is not pure in this respect. It includes the topical affections of the organs of the nerves, the Hallucinationes, & morositates that consist in an affection of peculiar appetites. It is only properly Deliria that I speak of now, & wch make one Set of nervous affections. — 2^d Order are those that affect the muscular System, wch it is difficult to limit wth precision; but the most part of them consist in an affection of the Organs of Voluntary Motion. These are the Seat of the various Spasms, or more properly the unnat^l motus Convulsivi, & to the same head belong the motus Impotentiæ, & I think also the Comas. — a 3^d Order are those that affect the Lungs & other organs concerned in Respiration connected wth them. To this belong the various genera or Species of the Anhelationes Spasmodicæ. A 4th Order of nervous affections may be reckoned those that affect the Heart. How far these affections may on occasion be extended to the whole Sanguiferous System, or how differ in their

mode of affection from others that affect it as an Hydraulic System I shall not enquire but observe that Palpitations & Syncope are often Diopathic & make an Order — The 5th are those wch affect the functions of the alimentary Canal, & are those I consider as the Symptoms of Hysteric & Hypochondriac Diseases. Whether these are to be considered as the same or distinct, shall be remarked by & by. - These are the 5 Orders of nervous Diseases, but wth regard to all of them it is to be observed, that from the Connection there is between all the Parts of the nervous System, these different Orders are often complicated wth one another. It will only occur in considering them more particularly, how we are to keep clear of the Confusion, that this Complication often endangers. They are just now to be distinguished upon a Footing of Pathology I have often spoke of, as they appear to be Diopathic or Sympathic. In short those that first arise in the Parts of the System, wch I have distinguished as being more moveable, may be called Diopathic; the others that follow in the Succession of Phenomena may be considered as Sympathic

Of Nervous Disorders

& the Disease must be referred to that Set of Functions, in wch the Phenomena first appear.-

Now of all those Orders, the most frequently occurring & the most widely extending its Effects is the 5th affecting the alimentary Canal. In short, so far are they thus frequent, & thus extending over the System, that it is these we mostly have in View, when we speak of Nervous Diseases, & you will perceive accordingly, that under the general title of Nervous Diseases, it is chiefly to those appearing primarily in the alimentary Canal, that that Title has been applied. & on that account it is these I propose to speak of.- But in proceeding to particulars very great Difficulties present themselves. These Affections both Idiopathic & Sympathic are so numerous, & at the same time so diversified in their Concourse & Combinations that on that account so many Physicians have still had recourse to the general View of them as Nervous Diseases.- I believe we must often practise on that footing, but surely our Practice is not accurate nor can it be rendered Perfect,

unless we proceed to some Divisions, & till we attempt to find some Peculiarities in the various Combinations, & upon this found our method of Cure. but such is the Difficulty here, that even the Divisions attempted have been disputed, as also whether there is any well founded Distinction; I think it worth hazarding the Supposition. I will now endeavour to shew that there is among these various affections of the alimentary Canal that have been so commonly called Nervous, a manifest Distinction to be observed, a Division to be made, & a division that leads to considerable Differencies in the method of Cure. While I affirm this, I must however remark, that when we have distinguished them, such are the Complications that occur, that these very distinct Diseases may be so blended, that it is hard to say when we meet with one or an other of them. Black & White are very well distinguished from each other, but may be so blended in a grey by different Proportions of the two into an hundred intermediate Shades, that it would require a great Experience in

Colours, to say in wch of the two prevailed. But perhaps there are among these 60 in wch the White prevails, & the other 40, in wch the Black prevails, & perhaps we can divide each of these into four or five Series, in wch we can determine very nearly the proportion of Black & White in wch respect to each. So it is in nervous Diseases; they admit of no exact Limits, the Passage is by imperceptible Degrees of Shape & Colour; so that we can only exactly distinguish them, when at considerable removes from each other; but that is no reason why we should not use the Distinction when applicable.— With this Caution I say that nervous affections of the alimentary Canal may be observed to consist of two distinct Combinations & Concourses of Symptoms, that are in some measure as different from one another as Black & White. I shall attempt to characterize each of these.

1st The one Concourse is less constantly present & more depending on occasional & External Causes. The external Causes exciting it, are chiefly these or other Impressions affecting the Organs

Of Nervous Disorders

of Sense, but more especially the first.

2dly Passions of the mind a particularly not so much a single Passion (except it both comes on suddenly & in a high degree) but chiefly the alternation of various agitating Passions. —

3d Sudden & Considerable Vicissitudes of the State of the System in any respect. —

The 1st then are distinguished by their external causes, & in the next place they are distinguished by the Subjects they attack. They occur especially in young Persons near their acme, & not long after it, except in so far as they are afterwards repeated by the occasional Causes & continue in consequence of a habit thus induced, but they chiefly happen in young Persons near their acme. They occur likewise to a particular Temperament, that ch Physicians have always characterized under the title of the Sanguine; Persons of smooth Skins & transparent, thin ds the Blood Vessels discover their colour; of red & florid Complexions, therefore of a soft, & rather a Lax habit,

but wth that full & plump, & commonly wth Pale or Reddish hair. Such is the Concourse of Appearances in those of a Sanguine Temperament; when I said Pale flaxen or red hair, I should have added soft & Lanch. Next it occurs to Persons frequently subject to Hemorrhages, & the Paroxysms of this Disease happen chiefly about the time of the Eruption of such Hemorrhages, sometimes immediately before, & sometimes at its going off. Lastly the Concourse I am speaking of, more especially attacks the female Sex, & among these the Barren, that either continue Unmarried, or married without bearing Children. To this I would add that it is a Disease of Warm Climates; that there are more Hysterics in England than in Scotland, & more in France than in Britain. How this Progression extends further South I cannot determine; but I generally see that Persons from Warmer Climates are more subject to this Disease, or if not to this, to the Analogous ones of the Spasmodic kind. The Symptoms are very commonly in a certain Succession beginning

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at first wth the Sense of a globe or Ball formed in the Lower Belly, most commonly occupying one or other Hypochondriac Region; it occasions a manifest Inflation there, & a fulness, but soon moves from that variously thro' the Lower Belly; after moving there for some time, it comes into the Stomach, giving an Inflation, & perhaps Vomiting; commonly from the Stomach it proceeds along the Oesophagus to the gullet, where it remains as a Trap impeding Deglutition & Respiration. We can see I think, that manifestly where it rises first, seems to be in one or other flexion of the Colon, from thence it passes wth an Inclination of the Peristaltic motion thro' the Small Intestines & thus into the Stomach & gullet. But as it makes this Progress, the Containing Parts are affected; the Abdominal muscles are violently convulsed; the navel is observed to be drawn in; the Diaphragm affected wth Hiccup; the Lungs wth an asthmatic fit; & the Heart wth Palpitations: & thus rising by degrees, at length attaining the Origin of the Nerves, it produces Coma, Stupor, & Drowsiness,

& the former Symptoms gradually remit. These Symptoms are of a Temporary Duration, & it is perhaps necessary they should to induce some remission & relaxation; they recur again more or less frequently according to the return of occasional Causes, & to the Disposition of the Body being more fitted to be affected by these: for it is to be observed that they readily become habitual, & are excited by smaller Causes than at first gave rise to them; nay they are in some measure under the Power of the Will, so that by recalling Passions that formerly excited them, the whole Phenomena will be reproduced. You will remember that in describing a Concourse of Symptoms, every one of them does not occur in every Patient, nor precisely in the same Order; but we distinguish by a considerable number of them occurring at the same time.— now I say this is one Concourse occurring in consequence of particular Causes in particular People. There is another Concourse to be opposed to this, & you will easily remark the Difference —

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2d The Symptoms here are more Constant, more permanent & subsisting in the habit more certainly than the others; they arise more from internal Causes, depending less on occasional ones, & particularly are excited by Causes that habitually weaken the System. All those that weaken the force & Tone of the System are productive of the Concourse I now speak of; & it is not the sudden agitating Passions, but particularly grief, a strong occasion of that subsisting for a length of time, wch gives rise to this Concourse as to the Subjects it affects; it occurs chiefly in the Decline of Life, after the human System has arrived at its meridian, after the age of 35; It happens to a particular Temperament wch Physicians have distinguished by the title of melancholic, i.e. those of less fine or smooth Skin, of a thicker texture discovering less the arteries & their proper red Colour shining thro'; discovering more the Veins, so that the whole Surface instead of the florid Cast of the Sanguineous habit, has a Leaden appearance; & wth this, Black

hair of a pretty strong Crispature, a lean Body, or at least less Plump than the Sanguineous. It seems to those who are liable to a fullness appearing in the Venous Vessels, to those subject to what we may call a Venous Hæmorrhage, to Persons habituated to Hæmorrhages, but who have suffered Obstructions, or to those who have suffered obstructions in the Determination to the Surface of the body, or to the Extremities. These two last Particulars will require some further Explanation wch shall be given when we treat of the particular Species; & lastly when the former Concourse happens more rarely, this more frequently occurs to them— Again the Symptoms attending this are irregular Appetites, sometimes loathing, sometimes craving very often peculiar aliments; in the next place Indigestion, Uneasiness & Pain arising during the time of Digestion; when we discover the Indigestion we generally find an attendant of Acidity; along wth these the Symptoms are a Heartburn, a peculiar Sense of Uneasiness; Gnawing Pain; morsus Ventriculi, or other more acute Pains at the Orifice of the Stomach; a rejection of a

quantity of Clear Water from the Stomach, the Pyrosis Succica of Sauvages, or Waterbrash as we call it, partly squeezed from the Salivary glands, partly from the irritated Stomach, generally attended wth Pain of the Stomach, & perhaps Heartburn; wth these, frequent flatulencies in the Stomach & Intestines; In various Parts of the Lower Belly Pains that have the appearance of Distension, & as depending on Spasm, but more durable than in the former Concomse, & joined wth Symptoms not constantly occurring in it, together wth an habitual Costiveness. I would also allege that this is a Disease of the Cold Climates, occurring less frequently in the Warm, tho' perhaps not exclusively; & it is remarkable that this is a Disease of the Cold Seasons generally, being spontaneously relieved by the Warmth of Summer. - both these Concomses have a considerable Effect upon the State of the mind, & very often are distinguished by their particular Effects on the Tone of it. The 1st affects it wth a remarkable mutability of the

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Capricious; this moment laughing, the next crying, & indeed all the Vicissitudes of Passion that can well be conceived occur in the first Concourse; in the last Depression of Spirits & Pusillanimity prevail. —

Now here is a Description of two different Concourses, both comprehended under the title of Nervous Diseases, but wch I think may be distinguished by calling the first Hysterical, & the 2d Hypochondriacal — They have been so distinguished by the generallity of Physicians. all the galenists of the 16th & 17th Century constantly observed this Distinction, & adapted their Cure accordingly. Highmore confounded these Distinctions, reckoning them to no purpose, & other eminent & considerate Physicians have been of the same opinion; but the most of those who have entered into the Study of them, have proceeded more or less to this very distinction. There are still some who oppose this Distinction, yet in some measure refer these Diseases to the 3 Orders of Nervous, Hysteric, & Hy-

pochondriac. On this subject Savage & Sinnons may be consulted, in whom you will find the same foundation for the Distinctions, wch I have given.— I say we may understand Hysteric & Hypochondriac Diseases as different, & have distinct notions of them, as two not only different, but in most respects directly opposite Conditions of the human Body, & the Distinction is altogether necessary— So far we have proceeded to establish these two genera, but this is not sufficient for Practice; We must go on to divide them into Species. as we proceed in this way, the Task becomes more difficult, but must be attempted, as it will, I imagine, in most Cases lead to a different method of Cure.— I therefore attempt to give you the Species of each of these genera in a Systematical method: calling the first simply Hysterica, & the last Hypochondriasis. This list of them may prepare you for understanding the method of Cure.——

Of Nervous Disorders

Hysterica

1st Hysterica Plethorica
2d ——— a mensibus suppressis vel retentis
3d ——— Libidinosa
4th ——— Nominarum Sterilium
5th ——— Chlorotica
6th ——— ab Inanitione

The first I mean simply as evidently to depend on a Plethoric State of the System, & only established by occasional Causes. The 2d is not so much Constitutional as induced by Suppression of Usual Evacuations, or at least encreased by it. The 2 following may be easily distinguished from these, & from each other. Of the 6th there are several Varieties, as from Spontaneous or Artificial Hemorrhages, from a too great increase of the natural Hemorrhages as the menses or Lochia, & perhaps from some other Evacuations as the Fluor albus. — The Species of Hypochondriasis are more numerous. —

Of Nervous Disorders

Hypochondriasis

1st Hypochondriasis Congenita
2d _____ a Pathemate, especially grief
3d _____ a Studio nimio, or any intense application of the Mind.
4th _____ a Venere Nimia
5th _____ ab Inanitione
6th _____ Hysterica, wch I call so, as having been originally an Hysteric Disease but having long subsisted, brings on the proper Hypochondriac State. —
7th _____ Emphractica — depending on Visceral Obstructions, where these are evident.
8th _____ a Suppressis Evacuationibus quibuscunque. —
9th _____ a repulsis, from Eruptions on the Surface suddenly repelled. —
10th _____ a Febre Interrupta, i.e. Intermittent.
11th _____ Arthritica
12th _____ Nephritica

These Species are not always to be distinguished by Symptoms, but often merely by their external & evident Causes. On this Plan I have offered

you the Species under these titles, as in the above list: not at all confident however that I have expressed the whole, nor certain that I have distinguished them very accurately. However I shall make a few remarks necessary for the Distinctions I would establish. — I first marked out the principal Species of Hysteric Disease depending entirely on the Sanguine & Plethoric Constitution before described exclusive of any disease in any particular part of the System. & I maintain that this is the principal foundation of the proper hysteric Disease. We meet wth many instances, where merely from the occasional Causes as agitating Passions &c, the Hysteric Symptoms as described above were brought on, continued & recurred: the menstrual Flux at the same time proceeding wth great Order & regularity. This furnishes a reason why we should not annex our notion of hysteric Complaints as always arising from the Uterus: but wch opinion every one indeed now corrects. —

The 2^d^ Species is still an Hysterica Plethorica, but a mensibus suppressis vel retentis: whether the title "vel Hæmorrhagiis quibuscunque suppres-

is" should be given, I dare not determine. I have met wth the Hysteric Disease in Persons liable to other Hemorrhages, but have not had opportunity of observing it to arise from these. The only Case here meant is the Suppression of that Hemorrhage more strictly peculiar to the Female Sex, & this I likewise call an "Hysterica Plethorica" as I believe it is not questioned now that a Partial Plethora does take Place on such an occasion; & that is enough to give a Distension to the System, so as to produce this Disease. — To this Species I might have joined the Chlorotica. The Chlorosis depends commonly on a retention, sometimes on a Suppression of the menstrua, & therefore is connected wth the Species I speak of. But they may be distinguished in this manner. The Suppression of the menstrual Flux has different Effects in different Cases; for in many it causes the Symptoms of a Plethoric State, or that same Mobility wch arises from it; the Constitution in the mean time retaining its Vigour, the Countenance its Colour, & the alimentary Canal not being perhaps considerably

affected. There is another Case of it where it in-
duces a Weakness, the Stomach is considerably
affected wth all the Symptoms of the Hypochon-
driasis, & not only the alimentary Canal is thus
affected, but the whole System appears flaccid,
so that the quantity of red Blood is diminished
daily, the Serum abounds & is ready to flow out
in form of Faces from the anus, or in other forms
as of Sweat; the Chylopoetic Organs being
greatly depraved. This last is what I mean by
the Chlorotica. You will understand from hence
that between the Hysterica a retentis menoibus
& the proper Chlorotica, there are all the inter-
mediate Stages of a Plethoric State appearing;
so that very often when the Chlorosis comes on,
there has taken place the proper Symptoms of the
Hysterica Diasasis. These two indeed are only to
be distinguished by degree, but you will understand
when we will apply one title, & when the other,
& we shall find afterwards that they require very
different methods of Cure —

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3d Species Libidinosa. The arabian Writers first, & afterwards those of the Southern Climes have made this remark in genral that the Hysteric Paroxysm is commonly finished by a flow of Humidity from the Pudenda. In Sauvage un= der this title you will see how a Nun was cured by a ——————————————— & in Astruc you find what he hints as a Common Practice of the Women in France in case of an hysteric Paroxysm, wch is in short taking it off by exciting them to a Venereal orgasm. This gives room to percieve that the Hysteric Disease is often of this kind, but from the rarity of the Case & delic= acy of our manners in this Island, we have no opportunity of observing it; altho it occurs in the Southern Climates. — But there is no doubt that the Hysteric Disease shews itself to depend on La= lacity by producing all the degrees of Amorous Behaviour even to a Furor Uterinus. I would however remark that we commonly mistake the nature of this Hysterica Libidinosa. The most

common Notion is, that it is from the want of Enjoyment of that Pleasure wch it is natural at the age in wch this Species happens, to desire; but this may not always be the Case. There are many instances in wch this Species occurs, & at the same time so far from the want of Venereal Exercise, there is an Uncommon Indulgence in them; & I have known several Instances of this kind in Persons who I have had pretty good Information indulged in that way & yet were exposed to what I may call Libidinous Paroxysms of the Hysteric Disease. Nay I have reason to believe the Disease occurs frequently from an over indulgence of that kind; We know very well that Salacity & Lechery gives an Uncommon Mobility to the System, & exposes it to be affected by every titillation applied either to mind or body. These are often increased by habit, & are therefore a means even of renewing the Paroxysms; & therefore tho we have mentioned but one Species of the Libidinosa, there may be properly two. One from retention of the Evacuations wch should take place in the Venereal act;

& another from the Contrary, an Excess of them, altho' that Excess more commonly lands in an Hypochondriasis.—

To the Hysterica Libidinosa I have subjoined one wch must be considered as different, viz. the Hysterica Faminarum Sterilium. In Unmarried Women it may be doubtfull, when this takes place, whether they have had a sufficient Indulgence in Venery, or not; or if it arises from a Want of that Series of Conditions wch Married Women should or ought to undergo. But in married Women in whom the first Supposition cannot be supposed to be true, yet if they do not conceive, they are observed to be more liable to the hysteric Paroxysm, & therefore this is to be considered as a particular Species.—

All the Species I have mentioned belong perhaps to the Hysterica Plethorica, but there is another very different from these, viz. ab Inanitione. Instances of it from other Evacuations than of Blood, we are not acquainted wth, but know that the histeric Disease very often arises

Of Nervous Disorders

from Hæmorhages, Spontaneous or Artificial. I know some Women who cannot loose 3iv of Blood, but fall into an Epilepsy & in some cases into an hysteric Paroxysm. There are some who being liable to Inflammatory Diseases, are obliged to use frequent bleedings, wch for a long time dispose them to hysteric Diseases. This leads us to understand why a principal Species of this will happen to those who are liable to an Unusual menstrual Flux, either returning too frequently, or flowing too profusely. We have several Instances of this kind, & there is none more frequent than ~~that~~ from that Evacuation of blood sometimes very Copious & Sudden, wch happens to Child bearing Women; hence all Women are more or less liable to hysteric ailments at the time of in-lying, tho' perhaps at no other time. you will see how they are liable to a particular relaxation not only from the quantity of Blood taken off, but also by removing the Pressure from the whole Branches of the Descending Aorta in the Cavity of the Abdomen; upon the removal of wch they are

in danger of being seized wth an hysteric Paroxysm, unless this Compression be remedied by tight Swathing. Sauvages has added, what seems to belong to this head, the Leucorrhoea. This Disease may seem to arise from it, in so far as the too frequent menstrual Evacuations is commonly connected wth the Fluor albus in the Intervals. but from it alone, I have never met wth one instance of the proper Hysterica, tho many instances of the Hypochondriasis: indeed I imagine that no Evacuation w^h is slow & gradual is likely to produce the Hysteric Disease, altho very probably the Hypochondriac. Hence from many instances of overabundant Menstrual Flux, we have, I think, nine Hypochondriac Cases for one proper Hysteric. —

These are the Species of Hysterica w^h I can distinctly mark. To these Sauvage has added another the Verminosa. I have not seen an instance of this, nor does he quote any from his own Experience, but from Dehne, who seems given to collect extraordinary Cases. The Irritation however from Worms may produce hysteric Paroxysms, when the Constitution is more particularly disposed to them. —

Of Nervous Disorders

I next marked out the greater variety of the species of Hypochondriasis. The first of which I named Congenita, tho' I am doubtfull of the Propriety; some Writers have used the Term Hereditaria; It is the same with the melancholica of Sauvages — It is like the first Species of Hysterica, depending entirely on the general State of the System, without any particular organic affection laying the foundation for it, but only sometimes following as a consequence; nor perhaps is it either produced from any External Causes, but the proper melancholic temperament is very constantly liable to occur at the Decline of Life. If this Species should be distinguished farther than by this temperament, I would observe that it differs from all the other species in this, that it affects the Mind more than the Body, or at least affects the Alimentary Canal more considerably than the other Species. Another Difference is that in other Species the Disease is more Constant; whereas in this from Causes not easily assigned, the Patient has very considerable Intervals, tho' it is indeed sometimes very Permanent when it recurs. I know a gentleman who

has had two or three fits in his Life, & these sometimes at the intervals of a year & a half; the 1st subsisted for 12 months together; & between that & the succeeding one he had an Interval of some years.—

The Second Species I mentioned is, "a Pathemate" as from grief, thong occasions of it long continued, or frequently recurring. This commonly does not differ much from the former because I have met wth few instances where it did not occur in the proper melancholic Temperament, wch happens perhaps from this reason that other Constitutions are not so tenacious of any Passions, nor will considerable occasions of Grief produce it, but in those who are predisposed thereto. However I must own I have met wth many Instances occurring in Persons of any habit, who were exposed to a long tract of Calamities.

Something like this occurs in the 3 Species "a Studio Nimio": Nothing more manifestly weakens the alimentary Canal than much application to Study, in so far that this has been called the morbus Eruditorum. But it is not confined to Study, but may follow an intense or long application of the mind to any busines. The very assiduous Merchant

Of Nervous Disorders

is accustomed to it as well as the Student, & it has been observed, that all men of considerable Capacity who have been employed in great Affairs have sooner or later fallen into those irregularities of the alimentary Canal I speak of: But it happens from any Cause more frequently to the properly Melancholic, for the same reason as before, that they are not only capable of longer studies, but confine them perhaps to a Single Object. For this reason Mechanicians have been of the Melancholic Cast; but at the same time I am convinced that a certain degree of application wth Constancy, & especially wth some anxiety will produce it in any Constitution whatever. ——

The 4th Species "a Nimia Venere". Here we begin to observe as we did of the Hypochondriasis Exquisite as I may call it, that tho it may occur to the Melancholic temperament, it is not confined to such. I have not known an instance of Impotence wth regard to Venery occurring in a proper Melancholic Temperament, but have had an hundred Cases in the Sanguine, & have hardly had one, where the Patient was not frank enough to confess to what Excess

it had been owing, & it most commonly proved to have been occasioned by Excesses early in Life in a most unsocial Manner. I have had 50 instances of it arising from that cause; a Venereal Impetus in the first place & in consequence of this affection of the Alimentary Canal. In all these the Patient was Pusillanimous & terrified with false & dismal apprehensions; these are for the most part peculiar to the Species "a Venere nimia". It requires a very different method of Cure from what occurs in the proper melancholic Temperament —

The next is "ab Inanitione" which might seem to comprehend the last. Any considerable Evacuation destroys the tension of the System, removes that Stimulus which is the proper Cause determining the due Influx of the Tonic Power into the whole of the System, but the Torpor occasioned by this means will be first felt in the Alimentary Canal. These Evacuations may be different; one in particular is from the Alimentary Canal itself; long Diarrhoeas or Dysenteries leave it affected with Hypochondriac Symptoms as Indigestion &c —

Of Nervous Diseases

Whether or not a Diabetes is to be considered as a Cause or Symptom of this Disease I cannot determine: It is often a Symptom of the Causes, an unusual quantity of Urine in a pale or limpid State, often with the ordinary appearances is an attendant upon the Hypochondriac & Hysteric Diseases. There is no doubt that this Evacuation may be a means of continuing the Disease, so that it may be both an Effect & Cause, & may perhaps give a peculiar Species; but I have never met with an instance of this. — more frequent instances of the above Species arise from Evacuations of Blood, all profuse Hemorrhages & all considerable Evacuations by Bloodletting are capable of inducing the Hypochondriac Disease, perhaps both because it does not coincide with the Sanguineous Constitution & comes on at a time of Life when it is in some measure removed, or that these Evacuations are made by slow Degrees, & therefore more frequently produce the Hypochondriacs than Hysterics. So among Females, as I have said, those liable to too frequent Evacuations of the Menses are in consequence of these more frequently affected with the Hypochondriac than Hysteric Disease; The Fluor albus has rarely been followed by Hysteric

Paroxysms, universally in th Hypochondriac. most of these last mentioned Inanitions even attach frequently the Hysteric Constitution, but I may observe that as they produce Hysteric or Hypochondriac Symptoms, they afford very different Indications of Cure—

To these I have subjoined the "Hypochondriasis Hysterica" i, e, an Affection of the Alimentary Canal brought on by frequent returns of Hysteric Paroxysms. I say that the Hysteric Disease appears at the approach to the Acme from 17 to 25. If it has returned frequently at that Period its Violence as an Hysteric afterwards remits, but leaves all the peculiar Symptoms of Hypochondriasis, & very often as one recedes, the other comes on, so that they are mixed at a certain part of their Stage, & give occasion to this Title; th is due when that peculiar Loss of Tone in the Alimentary Canal constituting the Hypochondriasis may be imputed to the return of hysteric Paroxysms. These different States are like Black & White mixed to a grey, & make it difficult to th genus the Disease should be referred—

7th Species, "Hypochondriasis Emphractica" from obstructed Viscera— It is difficult to give the External

marks of this, as it only appears in consequence of Dissection of the Viscera, & even then is ambiguity; as it is difficult to say whether these Visceral Obstructions were the Cause or Effect of the Disease. However where we can discern any marks in the beginning of the Disease as a Cachexy from an accumulation of blood in the Sinus of the Vena Portarum, or hardness in the Liver or Spleen, I say when these can be perceived we have little difficulty in determining this Species. But in other cases where these Symptoms do not appear, or where the Disease has long subsisted before them, it is hard to say, whether they are Causes or Effects, as the Continuation of the Disease constantly terminates in Visceral Obstructions. We must seek out the Cause however, as according to that the Disease will require particular Methods of Cure. —

8th Species. "Hypochond: a Suppressio Evacuatic oribus quibuscunque". There are many instances where the body has been liable to Evacuations for a length of time, a Suppression of which has produced this Disease. a Diarrhoea or Dysentery suppressed

have left Hypochondriac Symptoms, but this more frequently happens from a Suppression of Evacuations of Blood as the Menses or Hemorrhoids. If you allow us to characterize hysteric & hypochondriac Diseases I would say that obstructed Menses tho an affection of the Uterus, do not when gradually brought on, so commonly produce the hysteric as hypochondriac Disease. It is true that in Young Women the sudden Suppression of them at the time of their flowing from external Causes, will produce the hysteric disease. But where these Causes operate more slowly except in the highly Nervous, they produce the Hypochondriasis, not the genuine Chlorosis. Suppressions likewise of fluxes of Blood from the Nose, Lungs, or Hemorrhoidal Vessels in men are commonly attended wth such Symptoms as may be called Hypochondriac — a very Curious question offers itself here, vizt. Whether the Hypochondriasis arises in this Case from a different distribution of the Blood introduced, or merely from that obstruction being accompanied wth such a loss of Tone as we see manifestly produced in the Chlorosis. But

this is to be avoided as being a theoretical question.—

The 9th Species, "a repulsis", from the sudden drying up of Issues or Setons or Ulcers from morbid Causes, or repelling Eruptions from the Surface. all of these have produced at one time or other an Hypochondriasis, to be cured by special management.—

The 10th Species, "a Febre Intermittente". Several Physicians have believed that an Intermittent Fever especially in its various forms, has a tendency to a certain limited Duration. Sydenham imagined he could determine the No. of Days it would subsist, & from that opinion some have thought it not safe to stop an Intermittent till it has run thro' its course.— It is not easy to determine this question, but it is evid. that so many Physicians have suspected it, & I have had several instances of Persons affected w.th the Hypochondriac Disease, that were liable formerly to an Intermittent Fever, w.ch by Cold or other accidents being suppressed, the Effects were a Hypochondriasis.—

The 11th Species, "Hypochond: Arthritica". I have last subjoined two Species w.ch I thought proper to connect together, but how they are really connected is at the same time difficult to say. Every one acquainted w.th the

history of the gout knows it is a peculiar affection of the Extremities, tho' it appears in the Stomach & alimentary Canal; & that the regular Paroxysms seldom come on without some previous affection of it. It must be owned that if it recedes, it may attach the head or lungs &c, but it more frequently appears in the alimentary Canal. I have known many instances of the arthritis in Persons, who foresaw the Paroxysm by a number of hypochondriac Symptoms some weeks before the attack; & we have had instances of its being cured by the gout appearing in the Extremities. What is the Connection, or how far it depends on a peculiar matter wandring from one part to the other, is not proper now to determine. —

12th Species "Hypochondriasis Nephritica". I have had many instances of Persons being forewarned of Paroxysms of the Stone by hypochondriac Symptoms in the Stomach, as likewise of men labouring under these Symptoms being relieved by a return of the nephritis. How an affection of the Kidneys is thus communicated to the Stomach is difficult to say; but if we consider how often the arthritis & nephritis are combined, we will suspect the Intercourse of each to the Stomach to be on the same foundation. —

Of Nervous Disorders

Having thus pointed out the usual species of these Diseases, I should now proceed to the method of Cure. But according to the Plan laid down of treating every subject in a Dogmatical manner, we must first say something of the Proximate Causes of these Diseases, wch however I must do shortly.—

Causa Proxima) The Proximate Causes of these Diseases is to be founded on the Consideration of the two temperaments, wch I assign as the foundation of the two different genera. In these it is founded, & from the Consideration of these, it is to be understood, here is the Plan of reasoning I employ.

In the Sanguineous & Hysteric Constitution there is a Laxity of Fibre. Whether a laxity of the simple Fibres alone, or if there is also a Weakness of the Tonic Power & that these two are connected, may be disputed. However there is in fact a Laxity of Fibre; this gives occasion to a more easy distension of the arterial System, & while the Constitution has not a force suitable to resist this, accumulations must arise there & that is strictly a Plethoric State of the arterial System. The Tension depending on one hand on the distending fluids, & on the [illegible] on the

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Contractility of the Vessels: When the distending Power prevails, this as being a Constant Stimulus, gives not only more Irritability, but renders the System like a machine whose action depends upon a Variable impulse of fluids upon it, & on a friction of its Wheels, more moveable, giving it a remarkable Variable mobility, & particularly exposing it to be affected to the very small change of the tension of the System, or even of particular Parts of it. The nature of this temperament therefore consists in a mobility of the System, whether that depends on Irritability alone, or on Sensibility also increased, & therefore more readily producing Irritation, I shall not say. This mobility however must expose to an ataxia, an irregular motion of the nervous System. All the Symptoms of the Hysteric & most of the Hypochondriac Disease, as Sydenham observed, depend on an ataxia or an Irregular distribution of the Nervous Power, i. e. its being sent to too great force, or in too great quantity into one part, & to too small force & in too small quantity into another. It is true this does not touch the fundamental & Proximate Cause, but I maintain that Sydenham judged rightly — In the next place these Irregular motions in such Constitutions as

are mobile, may be produced either by a Stimulus, or by the want of the usual Stimulus, i.e. by a Relaxation or remission of the usual Tension arising from the Stimulus. The Effects of Stimulus in producing a more copious Influx of, or more Impetus in the action of the nervous Power will be easily understood; The Effect of want of Tension or Relaxation is perhaps not so obvious. But consider what happens commonly in every Deliquium animi from whatever cause produced; There is a Suspension of the Influx of the nervous Power into the Vital organs & seemingly into the whole System; it is irregular for you see it is very constantly attended wth Convulsive motions. There are innumerable other instances of this kind; Every one knows how much taking off the usual Support from a Part gives a Tremor or Spasmodic affection to it. If any liable to Cramps in his Limbs, does he not find how they depend on a particular Posture? He knows that if he props his foot against the bottom of the bed, or gives the due tension, he prevents the Spasm that would otherwise occur, & getting into an Erect Posture is another remedy of the same kind. — In-

numerable other instances might be mentioned to shew that want of tension or relaxation will immediately induce an irregular influx of the Nervous Power; & it should be added that while the Disease depends on Mobility, & consists in an ataxia, it may be produced by these various Causes, it may extend itself to every Part of the nervous System, tho' I mentioned as being of most variable tension. Here you have the nature of the Hysteric Disease & a foundation for an Explanation of all its Symptoms. —

On the other hand in the Hypochondriasis depending on the melancholic Temperament, we find a rigid fibre tho' gives a strong Contractile Power, & therefore a better Counterpoize to the distending blood; a firmer & more accurate tension over the Whole System, but by prevailing particularly in the arterial Part, necessarily throws a greater quantity of Blood on the Venous, & therefore gives the Venous Plethora, by wch this Constitution is distinguished. This more accurate tension in the Whole of the System gives less mobility, such as can appear in some measure to resist what we may suppose the action of the Prime mover in the origin of the Nerves

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which distributes the Tonic Power; I say we can conceive this mobility to be so deficient as to exceed this action. This Rigidity gives a Torpor which not only implies a less Irritability but a less share of the Tonic Power; which Torpor is more especially to be felt in the Alimentary Canal & in other organs that want the Stretching Powers & depend intirely on the Tonic. Now this is a general Idea of the two States of the Body under these Diseases, but I should add that I now referred them to the general Constitution of the Sanguineous & melancholic Temperament, but that in the last particularly, the Torpor & Langnor of the Nervous Power appearing in the Alimentary Canal may be induced likewise in various Constitutions by every Weakning Cause, & therefore there may be a foundation for the two States of Hypochondriasis: the 1st depending on the Temperament, the other accidental, or depending on Causes weakning the System. But what chiefly to be taken notice of is, that these two Temperaments are directly opposite, the one exceeding in Mobility, the other faulty in Torpor; & that from Theory as well as facts there is a foundation for the Distinctions between these two Sets of Diseases. I must

ad that tho I have supposed them both connected
to the whole System; it must however be acknow=
ledged that they depend more purely on a peculiar
State of the Nervous System, or a peculiar Consti=
tution of the Origin of the Nerves, independent of the
general State or distribution of the Nervous Power
that occurs in the Sanguiferous System. This opi=
nion we are led to, from finding so many instances
of the Power of Imagination producing the Pheno=
mena of both Diseases, but especially the Hysteric=
Among the various Causes that may induce this
peculiar State of the Nervous System, of the Senso=
rium particularly, one may be, a peculiar Animo=
my applied to the System, a peculiar Matter intro=
duced into the Body affecting especially the Nerves
as we evidently see in the Case of many Poisons, that
will act on every Constitution; & many act in
producing a peculiar Sensibility & Mobility in
the System. Besides these Cases of Poisons, where
the Effects are more evident, I will not deny that
there may be a Suspicion of various other Animo=
nies subsisting, because I take no further notice of it,

as it is for the most part hypothetical. I do not know any instance in wch we can beforehand discern it or direct our Cures against it. The Conclusions favouring the Existence of Acrimonies have been drawn from Events, perhaps from Symptoms preceding Evacuations or Eruptions taking place; but these are all imaginary, altho' Weighty arguments have been used in their favour. Nay tho' we know a Poison or Acrimony to subsist, this would have no Influence on the Practice of Physick, because our remedies are not directed to expell the Nature of the offending Acrimony——

Methodus Medendi. as I have marked out the two genera as different, so I shall treat of them separately. & first as to the

Hysteric Disease. The method of Cure turns on these general Indications, To remove the present Paroxysm, & in the intervalls endeavouring to prevent return.— We endeavour to remove the present Paroxysm, because sometimes, tho not often, they have proved fatal; & independent of immediate Danger we know they considerably affect the Constitution, so as from

this violence & frequent repetition to induce a habit. This is therefore always a Part in the method of Cure. In taking off the Paroxysm we have in view in some measure the diminishing the Plethoric State, wch is the foundation of it, & what particularity exposes to accident from the violence of the Fits; as in a Plethoric habit there is danger from the blood being forced wth too great violence into particular Parts of the System, & therefore Bleeding has frequently been thought a means of taking off the Paroxysm. The use of it depends on a nice Judgment; how far the Precaution just mentioned is necessary, how far a Plethora prevails & requires Evacuations or threatens the Consequences I speak of. Physicians have only given general rules as to this matter, & left a great deal to the Sagacity of the Practitioner. all that I have to say is that Bleeding in the first fits of the Disease is generally both necessary & safe, unless we can manifestly discern it has rather arisen from Inanition than Repletion, but however in the first Fits it will be commonly practised wth Success, particularly in manifestly full

habits. but as Evacuations encrease the mobility of the System on wch this Disease depends, so under repeated fits it is generally found to be rather of bad Consequence, & in habits not remarkably full or suspected of Inanition it may be certainly hurtfull, & therefore in general the Practice of V. S. is to be used wth great Caution, & much oftner avoided than performed.— The other means respect the Disease as it turns out in its Progress throwing the Person into a kind of Deliquium animi, or at least rendering her Comatose; for while it begins wth violent Spasmodic affections, it ends in the Comatose State manifestly affecting the Nervous Power; its influx into the several Parts being very much suspended. To rouse the Nervous Stimulants have been thought of. Of these Stimulants there are two remarkably powerfull & immediately applicable as exerting very quickly their Powers, viz. Heat & Cold. as to the first especially applied in the form of Bathing, Dr Whytt has very properly pointed out its Extensive Use, & we have frequently seen the good Effects of the Pediluvium; He advises it for recovering Hysteric Patients, but as he ob-

verses, so I have frequently found, that there are Cases in wch it is entirely ineffectual; he takes notice that in the more remarkably Plethoric it is of less use & I add of less safety in so far as it is a Stimulus to the whole System, by ravifying the Blood. But in Persons that are more loose in their Habits & under a less Plethoric Distension, & especially when there is a Suspicion of the Disease arising from Inanition or an Inequality in the Tension of the System, & particularly where it does not come on from sudden agitations of Passion, but from more obscure changes in the System, & is therewith it discovers its approach by a Coldness seizing the Extremities & encreasing till it forms the hysteric Paroxysm; In these Cases it is one of the most Effectual remedies. — I speak now of the hysteric Paroxysm as more limited, & not of the several Symptoms of the hysteric Disease, in wch we may also proceed perhaps to the Semicupium, wch is a general Stimulus to the System, exciting the Tension on the Surface of the Body, & thereby restoring it more fully over the whole. — The

Effects of heat applied wth humidity are the most salutary, & therefore the Pediluvium is preferable to Potus. You will easily understand the Rationale of its operation. —

Another very Powerfull Stimulant, & very suddenly applicable is Cold. I shall afterwards say of what considerable Power it is in preventing the return; but its Effects in time of the Fit are more ambiguous. If we could apply it to the whole System at once while the Spasm subsisted, it might be Effectual in quieting them; but it is more doubtfull, when applied to particular Parts in giving an unequal Tension, diminishing perhaps the Influx of the nervous Power into that part to wch applied, & thereby only serving to aggravate the Disease. It is ambiguous in many Cases on this account of its application; & likewise we cannot measure its Effects on usual Systems, as it acts differently on different Patients. I have found that immersing the hands in Cold Water or sprinkling the face wth it upon the first approach of a Fit entirely diverted it, & at other times more effectually

bought it on. But when the Fit has advanced to a Comatose State come on, there I very frequently find Water thrown on the Face or immersing the hands is one means of more quickly restoring the Patient. —

Another Set of Stimulants are taken in the form of Medicines. Whether all these are to be considered merely as Stimulants, or at the same time as antispasmodics having a particular Power of correcting the motions of the Nervous System, I dare not determine. They are however of a particular kind, at least Stimulants in general not being equally Usefull. We choose those that are most active & therefore most commonly the Volatile Alkali, applying it to an Organ communicating the Stimuli applied very readily to the Whole System, i, e, the Organ of Smell, for I need not say that in hysteric Cases there is not room for introducing Medicines into the mouth & Stomach. This Volatile Alkali seems to act directly as a Stimulus, but when we go to the

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other remedies commonly ~~applied~~ employed as the various Empyreumatic Substances, viz. Burnt feathers, or other animal Substances; there is a mixture of qualities, some degree of Volatile alkali, but a more considerable one of an Empyreumatic Oil is exhaled; how that therefore acts, whether as a Stimulus or antispasmodic, or what is the nature of its operation, I dare not determine. Analogous to these Empyreumatics are the Fossil oils. Oleum Succini is the chief form of these & is commonly on this occasion employed. I mention it now for the sake of this remark, that ℔ we have in the Shops will be an ineffectual remedy; I have not in many years found it genuine or pure, have frequently examined it, & found its greater Part to be Oil of Turpentine, wch is of much less Effect than the genuine Oil of Amber wch I believe is a peculiar Stimulus & may be a very powerfull remedy on this occasion. I said just now that we cannot apply these Medicines but to the Nose, as they cannot

be introduced into the Stomach; but there is another way that may be thought of, viz by Glyster, tho' we are sometimes even excluded from that by violent Spasms of the Sphincter ani. When this is not the case, it may be another means of applying remedies for exciting Persons under the Comatose State of the Hysteric fit; & I am put in mind of this by finding that the fœtid oil exhibited in this manner is more powerfull than many other fœtids that have been suggested.- These are the means of removing the hysteric Paroxysm. —— The other Indication is to obtain an Interval & prevent a return — To consider this fully we must look into the various Species of Hysteric Disease, & observe that these depend on particular Causes. In short all the Species & except the pure Plethoric without any particular organic affection must be regarded as depending on that particular Cause & therefore requiring a Special method of Cure.—

We shall chiefly insist on the more general

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Cure when the Disease independent of any particular Organic affection depends on a general temperament predisposing, & only arises when excited by occasional Causes. The 1st Consideration then, must be certainly the avoiding occasional Causes. With regard to it I only observe that it must be of difficult Execution when the Passions or Appetites of men or Women are the chief of these Causes. If for instance the occasion is an Excess in Venery, when shall we be admitted to the knowledge of this fact, or what interest can we use to prevent the Repetition. If in other respects it depends on agitating Passions, we shall find it difficult to instill into our Female Patients much Philosophy, so as to guard against these. This I can say for the comfort of every Practitioner on such Diseases, that he can throw the blame on the Patient for not avoiding occasional Causes; however I would venture to say that a Sagacious Physician will discern & upon many occasions be able to detect & upset the Patients will in avoiding them. I have

ven many Examples of such Sagacious Practice, that purely turned on discerning & directing the Patient in this manner, or indirecting the Bystanders. But that is not the proper province of the Physician, except so far as he is a Divine or Moralist, wch I will not pretend, Gentlemen, to make you — What more properly belongs to the Physician is curing the Indisposition of the Body, or putting it in a Condition to resist the Power of these occasional Causes. With regard to this Indisposition we may observe that it often depends on the Plethoric State of the System. We think we may obviate that by taking off the too great Distension by evacuating a Portion of the fluids by Bloodletting. accordingly it is universally prescribed, & in so far as it is the Hypothesis Plethorica & Exquisita it may be useful; but it is to be observed that it is a very precarious method of curing the Plethoric State. When that indeed threatens immediate bad Effects it is unavoidable; but we cannot prevent the recurrence of the Plethoric State merely by V. S.,

may it is found to induce a encrease a Plethora. There is the first Difficulty that occurs in the management of the Plethoric State by Bloodletting. It would require a very nice attention to judge of the quantity, as I may say, of Distension a to use V.S. again before that State arrives, a so to go on from time to time. We could indeed diminish the quantity taken at each bleeding, but it should be attended to, that at the same time we perform V. S. wth this View, we may not only not cure the Present Plethoric State, but if we go a little too far, we may produce the Disease a fresh, a bring on more harm than the Plethoric State occasioned: For this reason I have already observed to you that this Disease may depend merely on an Excess of Bloodletting. I have had an instance of this within these 8 days. An hysteric Paroxysm a various other symptoms connected wth this, wch was imputed to the following Circumstance: a full young Woman being by accident exposed to Cold during her menstrua, the flow of them stopt: She kept this a Secret from her Physician, but finding as she imagined a Suba-

tion wh was the Effect of an over Distension, in consequence of wh she practised V. S. 3 or 4 times pretty freely herself, by means of wh this Disease was brought on wh she has labourd under for a year or two. The management therefore of Bloodletting in Hysteric Cases is a nice Practice, either as to effect the Design of diminishing the Plethora, or because it disposes to a contrary Condition, i, e. produces Inanition wh certainly brings on the Disease. I would therefore say that tho there are many cases where the Disease is recent & in Plethoric habits in wh it may be admitted, yet I would never recommend obviating a Plethora by this means. I think a much more Effectual method is by a proper Diet. It has been constantly observd that a full Diet disposes Women to this Disease, & that accordingly the Wealthy are more affected wth it than the Indigent. There is no doubt that the only effectual means of obviating a Plethora is by low Diet & Exercise. But in the attempting it

in this manner a difficulty occurs particularly in the Diet of hysteric Persons, owing chiefly to this, that Practitioners do not distinguish the hysteric Disease from the Hypochondriac, i.e. where it appears in its proper form, & where by a Continuance it has produced that more habitual Disease of the alimentary Canal, & therefore a Number of Patients that may be called hysteric will not bear a low Diet. If you do not give the Stomach its usual Stimulus & Consequent tension you expose it to the various Symptoms that occur in this latter Disease; & therefore two kinds of Diet may be employed according to these Circumstances, one to the Hysteric, & that is a low & a Vegetable rather than an Animal Diet. But it should be remembered that if a Person has been used to Meat & Wine, you will effectually bring on the Hysterical Disease by substracting that suddenly & by throwing in a Nescent & flatulent Diet. The Hypochondriac Disease is commonly taken for the Hysterical, & consists

in that disorder of the Stomach, that so often produces Cholic & Flatulency, requires a very different Diet from the peculiar hysteric Constitution. I have known Hysteric Diseases cured by low Diet, & nature often suggests this; these Patients having often a Craving for acescent food, & their Stomachs will only bear such. I know a young Woman whose only food for several weeks was Apples, & under that very abstinence & Cooling acescent Diet, she was freer from the Paroxysms than when she took any thing more stimulating. You will easily judge from the Hysteric Disease approaching gradually to the Hypochond: State, & being attended wth Disorders of the Stomach, how the Diet is to be regulated.

Another Method of preventing the Returns is by diminishing the mobility of the System, wch is done by various means, & 1st the management of the Passions. These have great Power of variously moving & agitating the nervous System. But they are of different kinds, whilst some are Instigantia or Causing these motions, others are Represmen-

tia diminishing mobility, & taking of entirely the force of the Nervous Power. Among the last & a very powerfull one in preventing irregular motions in such moveable Constitutions is Fear. Its Effect is however very ambiguous, & is frequently one of the Causes by which they are excited. Where the Irritability or perhaps Sensibility is encreased every sudden motion & particularly a Stroke of Fear is a means of bringing on this Disease. It happens to this as to every Passion that it is impossible to measure its Effects; even the Pathemata Repraesentativa will not always have a more repressing Effect but will excite to action. If a Person is affected by Fear, it often excites him to action in order to repell the Cause of it. It is therefore impossible to measure the degree that will produce the Effect we desire, & on this account tho' none are more Powerfull than Fear, it is rarely we can employ it. I mention Fear here, because I have known many instances of its Salutary Effects, where Persons altogether impotent were immediately restored Sound & continued so during their future Life. It is likewise a considerable remedy in various Convulsive & Epileptic Diseases. Fixed

not mention the remarkable Case that occurred at Haerlem, a I have seen several instances where by a permanent fear of somewhat future, or permanent Grief (which is known in Practice so often to cause the Hypochondriasis) has proved a cure for the hysteric Disease in its various forms. This happened in this Country particularly in the year 1745, when Physicians in general agreed in this Observation, that of their numerous Nervous Patients that were constantly complaining, being kept during that season under constant Anxiety & apprehension, the greatest Part remained perfectly free from their Complaints. and I have known Persons long liable to Nervous & particularly Hysteric Complaints that have met with a considerable Calamity in their Family, which People apprehended would aggravate their Disorders; but this I say had the contrary Effect of relieving them, till that particular impression was again worn off. I therefore think it proper to mention these Effects of Passions, while I am speaking of the Cure of this Disease. ——

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Another remedy to be taken notice of as diminishing the mobility of the System, & giving it that Tension necessary to obviate the returns of this Disease is Cold applied to the Body. The manner of its operating I have difficulty in explaining. In the 1st place we think of its operating on the animal body as an Inanimate machine, by condensing its Substance & therefore encreasing the firmness of the Simple fibres. In so far as it could produce this Effect, it might obviate the Disease so much connected wth Laxity; but little can depend on this, for if applied to the Surface of the whole body, it does not by its cooling Power penetrate to any considerable Depth, & therefore cannot give a general rigidity to the Simple fibres as inanimate; its Effects therefore are to be sought for in another way. Cold applied to the Body for a short time has a manifest stimulating power in regard to the whole System. If the Hands are immersed in Snow, they become red, w[ch] plainly shews a strong Influx of blood into them, & soon after

a heat following. In this & in many other instances it appears to be a Stimulant, & as such I mentioned it before as a means of recovering Hysteric Patients. In this way it may increase the Tonic Power, & may be a means of removing its mobility rather than in the other I mentioned. But independent of Stimulus by occasioning a Contraction of the moving Fibres within the reach of its action it must extend that Power over the whole System, & thus have considerable Effects by giving Strength to the whole. It may be doubted whether we can add that it acts in diminishing the mobility of the nervous Power: We know when carried to a certain length it will entirely destroy its mobility, whether it acts thus in the Way we employ it, I will not say, but think it probable. Therefore I think the reason now appears of the proper Hysteric Disease that depends on this mobility occurring less in Cold Seasons & Countries, & therefore instead of the Cold Bath, I think that Persons living in a Cold Air is a chief means of freeing them

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of the Disease. you know that in this Country the Atmosphere is colder than our bodies, & that it acts as a permanent Cold, but is not so powerfull as to become a Stimulus & that we are lyable to Hysteric Diseases; a Cold therefore & fresh air is a considerable remedy. I therefore imagine it is that Cold bathing not as we manage it by a Dip but confining the Patient in it for several hours is so Effectual. Mons.r Pomme has mentioned these Effects in the book he has published; w.th regard to w.h however I would observe that he is indeed a man of singular Character, vastly more forward in decrying & throwing Contempt on other Practitioners than most authors that have appeared, w.h gives us Suspicion of quackish manners. His Behaviour is far from that modesty that attends men of Probity & genius; he is again sufficiently confident in giving Theories, but the most futile that can be imagined. We adopt his facts, having some regard to the Veracity of them, as he quotes the names of those on whom he practised in the

right of large Cities, tho' at the same time they are very extraordinary, but his reasoning is ridiculous. His facts chiefly relate to Cold bathing, wch I think may be very Efficacious in the Hysteric Disease when continued for some time. However we have difficulty to conceive how a Patient should be kept in a Cold bath for twenty hours together, yet such is his Practice, at least for several hours together. I have had no opportunity of confirming it by proper Experiments, but pointed it out to your attention & shall give you some opportunity of seeing the imitation of it. —

I shall next mention the various medicines that are commonly considered, as encreasing the Tonic Power, & thereby diminishing the mobility of the System. We have frequently the same doubts wch regard to many of these as of Cold. The Tonic medicines to be first taken notice of are the various metallic matters; Those of the most Universal Use are the Chalybeats, wch are of various forms, but little different I imagine in Power. They are of Uncertain Use in our present

subject, perhaps absolutely in the Hysterica Pathorica, or if they are to be admitted, it is at last in a small quantity at once & sparingly. In the Contrary they are absolutely necessary & perhaps the chief Medicines when it depends on the Chlorotic State, under the general Flaccidity that attends it, or wherever the Constitution has a tendency that way. I would observe that Chalybeats contrary to a general rule I have formerly delivered here, of giving them in small doses, & by degrees, that they should be employed in larger doses than they are commonly given in, as I have found from many Experiments in Hysteric affections, a with more remarkable Success than otherwise. In favour of my former Opinion that Chalybeats were given with more safety & Success in small doses & at longer intervals, I mentioned that the Success of Chalybeat Waters was greater perhaps than in any other form; but I now observe that Mineral Waters have a Complicated Operation, that they very often act chiefly by their heat or Cold, & that by either Power they may be employed to determine to the Surface of the Body by their action on the Stomach, or reaching the Surface by their bulk

& fluidity they encrease the various Secretions, in both ways restoring the proper ballance & tension of the System; & therefore the action of these Waters is not to be confounded wth the general effect of Chalybeats — The other metallic Tonics are perhaps very various. This Power is lodged in a great Variety of metallic Substances, but are hardly taken notice of except in Tin, Lead, & Copper — as to Tin, its Preparations have been formerly & particularly among the Chemists celebrated for their Efficacy both in Hysteric & Epileptic Cases. But I have never seen them employed in any form, that could act as a Tonic in this Country, & therefore dare not speak of them —

We are well acquainted wth the Power of the Preparations of Lead as astringent & Tonic, & so far diminishing the mobility of the System as to have got the appellation of narcotics. We know their use in Hemorrhagic Cases & lately in Feverish Diseases, but not in the Hysterica or Epilepsy this I think is deserves to be enquired into.

The 3^d metallic is Copper, wch is of much more frequent practice, tho' attended wth more difficulty

being in very small doses powerfully stimulant particularly to the Stomach, & therefore to throw in a quantity so as to obtain its proper tonic Powers. Van Swieten gives us on this Subject a Curious fact, that he has seen a preparation of Copper, wch had no Stimulating Power, but merely after being swallowed diffused a sort of thrilling Sensation over the whole System wch was remarkably useful in Epileptic Cases. Such a Preparation is much to be desired; he knew not the Composition, nor have we yet found it out, but aim at it in this manner. all the metalline Substances are only active when combined wth Saline Bodies; the simple acid & alkaline Salts render them more active than the neutrals, & therefore I have learned from Germany to employ a Neutral Salt, an Ammoniacal Salt wch dissolves it more properly. I have tried it wth very various Success, but frequently wth so much as makes me repeat the Trials, & hope to ascertain its use more exactly. I shall have occasion to speak of its use afterwards on the Patients on whom I shall employ it. —

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The other Tonic medicines after the metallics are various Vegetables. 1st The Simple astringents. Whether these act by encreasing the Contraction of the Solid Fibres, & thereby giving a greater tension, or by diminishing the mobility of the System cannot be determined; probably in both ways, It is certain however that astringents has been formerly much employed in taking off the mobility of the System in the Disease we are speaking of. The Viscus Querenus or mistletoe has been the most celebrated, & tho' it seems to have been introduced with a great deal of superstition, we cannot refuse the facts given concerning it. I believe it useful more particularly in Epilepsies; in Hysteric Cases I cannot say I know its use, except as I shall observe the two Diseases are so frequently combined. With regard to it & others such like, I imagine we know not their Use, nor are we in the way of learning it, as they require a longer time than we have patience for, & certainly in larger doses than we employ them. — The next astringents I would mention are the Bitters constantly supposed to be Tonic & Strengthning

medicines, & certainly more immediately active than the former, as they act directly on the Stomach. Their Effects however are not propagated thence to the rest of the System unless when used in larger quantities than Common; but where the Disease depends chiefly on the Weakness of the Tone of that single organ, where the Stomach is the Part chiefly complained of, they are undoubtedly of considerable use. They are not very useful in the proper Hysterica, but in the various Symptoms of Hypochondriasis so often connected with the hysteric Disease, they are of very evident & considerable Service.— Instead of using Astringents or Bitters singly, we have of late learned to prepare the Combination of both; the Peruvian Bark is a medicine of this kind, which has supplanted the other two Drugs. The use of this gives a strong Presumption of its Tonic Power: at least I think no Satisfactory Explanation of its action has yet been offered, & if we do not allow this, we must again talk of it as a Specific.— From its obviating the Spasmodic affections in Fevers, analogy has led us to employ it in Epileptic & Hysteric Cases, yet it

is there much to be certain & I may say, disappointe us every day. I would allege that the reason of this is, that from our Practice in Fevers, we conclude nothing can be expected from it unless when given in large Doses, & still very little unless these doses are given immediately before the Fits come on. But our ordinary Practice wth Peruvian Bark in Hysteric & Epileptic Cases is neither managed in one way nor another: In the last because it is difficult to judge of the approach of Fits, except in the Epileptic, where they are sometimes nearly Periodical, so that we can throw in a suitable quantity immediately before they return, & I have seldom found it usefull except in such cases: exactly Periodical hysteric Fits are rarely to be met wth, & therefore can receive little Benefit from this valuable medicine.—

Another Set of Tonic Medicines are the Aromatics. These are certainly employed in present Spasms particularly of the Alimentary Canal to wch they can be directly applied, but has far they are of any use in obviating future Spasms or wch occur at a distance from their Exhibition.

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They approach to another Clas of medicines to be mentioned for taking off the mobility of the System, viz. the Antispasmodics, a Clas of medicines however very difficult to be spoke of. They have this singularity that they very often unite a Stimulant & Sedative Virtue at the same time in the same Substance. This is in the first place a Theory difficult to understand, I would therefore throw out a short hint in regard to it.- I imagine the operation of Medicines on the nerves are in two ways; one like that of the several mechanical Stimulants that act merely by changing the texture of the Part, & in consequence of that act on the Nervous Power; The other operation I imagine does not thus affect the texture of the Part but merely the Nature of the Nervous Fluid itself. Now I imagine that all Stimulants are of the first kind, & in proof of that, the many Medicines of the Stimulating kind, the Chemical Stimulants as they are called, do not act on every part of the System, but

merely on the Extremities of Nerves modified in a particular manner so as to be exposed to the topical action. The Sedative Powers act without any sensible impression, & in that act more universally on every Nerve, as well as that to wch they are applied. Of this kind are the various Poisons, the Belladona for instance wch acts indeed topically by inflaming the Stomach & whole Tract of the Canal over wch it passes, but before it produces these Effects, it exerts various Powers on the Nervous System, that cannot at all be found connected wth that. — Having said so much on this head I return to observe that Antispasmodics having so often Stimulant & Sedative Virtues united, it becomes difficult to say in Hysteric Cases what depends on one quality, & what on another in taking off the present Spasms; the Stimulant Virtue may have some Effect, but even there the Sedative seems more considerable, & certainly has the greatest Share in obviating the future Spasms. I could make many remarks on the different kind of Antispasmodic remedies but shall

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confine myself to the two most Powerfull, wch are Sedatives are Camphor & musk. With regard to both, these Powers are only evident when they are given in large doses: that is the reason why we seldom practise wth them, because their Sanative Powers are nearly connected wth their Deleterious. You may give Camphor to 10, 20, or 30 grains without any sensible Effects; in many Cases I have given it several days together to the quantety of ℥ss wth no sensible Effect, but when it was encreased to ℥ij wch was only ¼ more, it produced Syncope & other dreadfull Symptoms, that rendered the Patients Life doubtfull, a from wch he recovered in some hours wth difficulty. There are several other Exper^ts made on it to the same purpose shewing that it seldom discovers its Vertues to any degree till it threatens danger. That tome is the Cause of great diffidence in the Employment of Camphor & I believe from this timidety I have altogether missed of its Effects — as to musk I have not had the occasion to see the danger of it so immediately connected wth high

doses, & I imagine it might be a much more benefitial Medicine if it was not for the Unlucky circumstance that nothing is more rare & Uncommon than pure Musk & consequently very dear, so that when we go to high doses we are forced to lay it by on account of Expence; hence we do not yet know the proper Use or Extent of it.— There is another particular to be observed in regard to all Antispasmodics, that they are only of great Use or Power when given in the time or near the Approach of the Fits, as their Effects are not permanent. another Curious reason for the same thing is, that their Operation in wch we desire is not only thus short in its duration, & passes before the Necessity for it, but after their just operation as Sedatives, they leave behind Effects of hurtfull tendency to our purpose. This will be best explained upon the subject of the most Powerfull & best known Antispasmodic Opium whose Use in the disease we are speaking of, is yet much disputed. It is absolutely powerfull in taking off the present Spasms subsisting in the Body, whether Colic in the Ali-

mentary Canal, or Tetanus in the Muscular Sys-
tem. It is, I say, the only certain remedy in pre-
sent Spasms; Whether it is useful in preventing
Chronic Paroxysms when attended wth moveable
Spasms in the Alimentary Canal as in the Hyste-
ric disease, or wth various Agitations of the Mus-
cles as in Convulsive Cases is by no means certain;
for the same reason as was before mentioned, of
the difficulty of giving Medicines before the approach
of Fits, because of their Irregularity— We have
seldom opportunity of discerning wth Certainty
that Opium given immediately before the attacks
might be very useful as I have great reason to sus-
pect; but given at a distance from them, it is un-
doubtedly hurtfull, & however this is to be explained,
Physicians agree that the frequent use of Opium
in Epileptic Cases & in what I call the proper
Hysteric is very certainly & generally hurtfull—
The famous opinion of the use of Anodynes in
Inflammatory Diseases impute the rarefaction
of the Blood to Opium. This I imagine can only
be accounted for by the Relaxation it induces on

the moving fibres of the System, taking off the Constriction of the Vessels, under wch Circumstance we know that the Blood dilates, & is rarefied. It is not therefore the Power of Opium as acting on the Blood, but giving an opportunity to that Rarefaction by its action of relaxing the Vessels.— But from the Principles we have before given, we may perceive that this is actually inducing the Plethoric State over the whole System; taking off the Constriction of the Solids is the principal foundation of the mobility of the System; & thence we easily explain why Opium has that Power as a Sedative, of taking off the present Spasms; but when that Operation is over, leaves the Body in a much more irritable State, & therefore is so justly blamed for encreasing & aggravating Fever & other inflammatory Diseases. This is enough to give you some foundation for the Application of Opium in the Disease we are speaking of.— I have only to add that among Tonics, & among those last mentioned Medicines Antispasmodics we should never forget that Exercise is the chief,

whether we consider it as by degrees strengthning the solid System, or supporting the force of the Circulation by determining in a particular manner to the Extremities of the Vessels; in both those respects I think it a usefull remedy, but is of difficult use in the Case of great debility in Hysteric cases. There is in such a surprising Delicacy wch regard to any motion in the least degree unusual, of wch I have had an instance within these few days of a Lady in that situation, in whom a little Laughing brought on a Deliquium animi & some degree of hysteric Paroxysm, & a little Uneasiness of Posture had the same Effects. And accordingly I have not found any People of more difficult management wch regard to Exercise than the Proper Hysteric; & therefore in this Case, if the Exercise is not extremely smooth & Moderate, & wth these Conditions likewise rendered Permanent & Durable, it can hardly be of considerable Effect. You will see therein that the

Exercise of Gestation wh is smooth, if rendered Permanent, will be the most Effectual; & I can say that in Case of mobility of the System, Sailing is the Exercise of all others of the most considerable Effect & has produced several notable Cures. — This finishes what I proposed on the general Cure of the Hysteric Disease; how these general rules wh I have now adapted to the Plethoric Species are to be varied wh respect to the particular Causes mentioned as Venery Sterility &c or adapted to the Chlorotic State or Cases of Inanition your Discretion will readily suggest. ——

I now proceed to the general Cure of the Hypochondriasis depending on an opposite State of the System, a Defect of mobility or Torpor. It may be necessary just to observe that there are perhaps two principal genera of Hypochondriasis; the one in wh the Exquisite melancholic Temperament occurs, & the other when that is not present but the affection of the Primæ Viæ arises from various Causes habitually weakning the Tone

the System & those part in particular – I shall speak first of the management of the proper Melancholic, & afterwards hint what arises from the Consideration of the various Species – As to that arising from the melancholic temperament I alledged it was a disease of Cold Climates & Seasons, while the Hypotenic belonged to the Warm, & therefore the principal remedy in the melancholic Hypochondriasis is warm Seasons & Climates; but this is attended wth great difficulty. In proof of the general assertion of the Effect of Cold Seasons I would put you in mind of the Beginning of a noted French Romance, "In the gloomy Month of November when the good People of England hang & drown themselves, a Disconsolate Lover walked out in the Fields". It is certainly true that the Winter Season produces the highest Degree of Melancholia; but this is at the same time to be allowed that there are ten times the number of Athabilarians in Spain that there are in Britain – Tho I have said that the Hypotenic Disease ap=

years much more considerable in the warm Climates, yet the Sanguineous Constitution is to be met with in all the Northern Climates. It is ten times more frequent in Spain & Denmarke than in Austria or the Southern parts of Germany. We are likewise certainly informed that the northern Inhabitants of Europe were formerly of Smooth & Rosy Complexions Blue Eyes & Fair hair; such were the Gauls & Britons; but now the Constitution of the South has encroached upon us; they are of a more Dry & rigid body, black hair & Tallow Complexion, & the Melancholic temperament is much more frequent & therefore what I have said of the Warm & Cold Seasons require some limitation. It is the moderate Warmth of our Summers, & the temperature of the Winters in the Southern Parts of Italy that are proper in this Disease. The Extream heats being as unfavourable to the Disease as great Cold, & therefore when I prescribe in this Case, I generally advise to spend the Winter in France

or the South of germany, but the Summer in Britain. For the Warm air may seem to be Useful here, yet a moderate cool air is a necessary Stimulus to our System — After Climate, Exercise is next to be observed, & should be constantly persisted in; but that Perseverance is difficult in bodily Labour, & therefore the Exercise of Gestation is commonly thought of. But the Disease is not nearly so much benefited by these smooth & Uniform gestations wch are more adapted to hysteric Cases, as those wch give occasion to bodily Exercises, & therefore Riding wch indeed is more universally Useful in every Species of the Disease is particularly serviceable here. another Curious reason for the necessity of riding is, that it engages a Person to consider his own way. Nothing is more Useful than to interrupt the Train of their Thoughts wch commonly turn on their own ailment, or some particular Objects to wch they are attached, & therefore aggravate their Disease. And I have known an instance

of a Person riding in a machine without receiving any benefit, but on being put into a Single Horse Chair, wch required his attention to conduct himself, he quickly found relief.—

These are the two remedies I mentioned as such, wch cure the Torpor, the proper foundation of this Disease. Other species of the same remedies are intended to interrupt their attention to particular Objects, wch is done by presenting to them a constant succession of various Objects, wch Variety is only to be had by pursuing some length of Journey rather than beating the same tract of wch we have instances, Persons riding over the same field without any benefit, wch they afterwards found in a long Journey. I mentioned just now the operation of mineral Waters, but I would just observe that Chalybeates in the genuine Melancholic Hypochondriasis are hardly ever admissible, a Fact which I have seen bad Effects from them, but not so in mineral Waters. They are very often useful in consequence of their other Powers wch I mentioned either as

determining to the surface by acting on the Stomach or expediting the Secretions. But to a view to Hypochondriacs, we have so constant a disposition to acescency in the Stomach, that mineral Waters somewhat alkaline are of remarkable service, such as the Selter & Caroline Waters in Germany, & on this is founded the Use of Soluble Tartar &c from Experiments has been lately recommended in the Cure of the ~~Hypos~~ Melancholic Hypochondriasis & Maniacal Cases either as being absorbent or laxative, & in either way obviating the Principal Circumstance attending this Complaint. —

Another remedy applicable to the Hypochondriasis & very often incompatible wth the Hysteric Disease is Warm bathing. Any Warm Baths either wth or without the impregnation of the substances commonly used, by warming the surface of the body, & keeping up the Determination of the nervous Power to it, & by taking off the rigidity as it is likely they should, are very often found a principal remedy in the Hypochondriasis. But as this Disease appears by its Symptoms

chiefly to affect the Prima Viæ, so a particular attention is due to the State of these organs. Here we can more certainly & exactly regulate the Diet by choosing Solid & avoiding Acescent food, & likewise Drink that is capable of producing the Acescent Fermentation; in both we should have in View to support the tension of & give a proper Stimulus to the Prima Viæ.— We should also endeavour to obviate the Costiveness that is the Consequence of the general temperament producing this Disease, but proves at last a Cause & aggravation of it. To this there is but one remedy certainly useful, viz. the aloetic Purgatives, perhaps from their peculiar quality of stimulating moderately without leaving an Astringency.— When a stronger Stimulus is required Mercury may be joined.— Upon the whole, if Exercise is rightly employed, the Diet properly regulated, & Costiveness avoided, we do almost all that is commonly necessary in Hypochondriac Cases. Some Purgatives joined to mineral Waters are equally well adapted to these Diseases.— The last Medicines are the various Bitters & Aromatics; The latter

proper to obviate present Spasms, the other use-
full in restoring the Tone of the relaxed Stomach.
But it should be observed that in most Hypochondria-
cal an abuse may be committed wth these in prescri-
bing them too commonly & constantly. The use of
Bitters & Aromatics wch at first stimulate & strengthe
en the Tone of the Stomach, do at last weaken &
wear it out entirely & bring on those Consequences
of long subsisting Hypochondriac ailments, the
Cachectic State, Leucophlegmatia & Dropsy &c.
Somewhat similar may be said of antispasmodics
wch take off present Spasms, & might frequently be
of Use, but there is seldom occasion for them, or re-
jecting the various fatid medicines they might
be confined to Opium. In using wch however we
must be carefull of weakening the Tone, & indu-
cing Costiveness so troublesome in these Cases.—

We are now to speak a few words concern-
ing the Cure of the Species of the Hypochondriac
Disease wch are considerably more diversified than
those of the Hysteric.—

The first Species & wch we have kept in

Of Nervous Disorders

view in speaking of the method of Cure is the Exquisita or that evidently depending on the melancholic temperament. The 2d is a Cachexia, & the next a Studio Nimia. With regard to both these, they commonly coincide with the first, i, e, they commonly happen in the same temperament, & therefore as to Cure may be considered as the same. They coincide with the first, because it is only in such melancholic temperaments that Passions have such Effects, or that intense application to Study of one kind, or to one object. It is true that both Species may arise on other occasions from the Extreme Severity of grief, or from a Series of Conditions that serve to occasion grief. Or the Hypochondriac Disease may arise from Excess of Study, or from various Circumstances independent of Temperament; but where this Diseases ly occurs it is not possible to lay down any general rules, but must be left to the Discretion of the Physician in one Case acting the Part of

a moralist or Divine, a in the other employing his Prudence in inducing the kind of study that may be necessary.—

The 4th a Venere Nimia. This & almost all the following differ from the three former in that they are not connected wth the Melancholic temperament; nay this fourth Species happens more frequently in the temperament wch is the foundation of the Hysteric Disease. The use of Cold Bathing constantly employed is the only powerful remedy I have found in this Species.—

The next Species I mentioned was the Hysterica p^ss, I said, gives a Combination of the two Diseases together, intermixed in various Degrees. Here the use of Cold bathing & Tonic medicines wch I suspect rarely admissible in the pure Melancholic are on the Contrary the principal remedies; i, e, We should keep in View the Mobility wch first gave occasion to the Disease rather than the particular Symptoms wch might now incline us to con-

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sider it as Hypochondriacal.—

next to these I think was the "Arthritica" wch appears in various forms, & is attempted to be remedied by all the different means employed in one or other genus. But I am disposed from the latest Observations & Experiments to say that the safest & most effectual remedy for obviating & carrying off the various affections of the alimentary Canal that depend on gout is the use of Chalybeates; We commonly attempt the Cure of these affections by Vegetable tonic Bitters & particularly the Bark; wch regard to wch I would observe, that we know now that the long continued use of Bitters will cure the gout, & will prevent those inflammatory Paroxysms in the Extremities in wch it chiefly consists, but at the same time we have learnt that this manner of curing seldom fails to bring on the Hypochond: Arthritica or various Diseases of the alimentary Canal & sometimes in other Parts of the System. When the Disease only appears in the alimentary Canal I think

it improbable that it should be safely cured by these remedies that will prevent the gout from seizing the Extremities, but may bring it into the Alimentary Canal: On this account it is certain that the use of Bitters to a considerable Degree is hurtfull to arthritic Patients in every Condition. not but the use of Bitters in a gouty Paroxysm, may obviate these Symptoms; but I alledge that they will undoubtedly by repetition wear out the tone of the stomach, & so far as they throw the gout out of the Extremities upon the alimentary Canal, & therefore may produce Chronic & fatal Diseases of wch Instances are not wanting.—

Connected to the Hypochond: arthritica is the nephritica. We know in general that the use of astringents as the Uva Ursi & others, are of particular use, as also the absorbent Earths, particularly Lime Water in nephritic Diseases: probably they may be of principal Service in the affections of the alimentary Canal depending on Nephritic affections. Here another Proof of the

Of Nervous Disorders

Connection between arthritic & nephritic affec-
tions, that we find at least that the Lisbon
Waters are of considerable use in the gout, wch I be-
lieve may be marked out as another safe remedy
for affections of the Alimentary Tube, depend-
ing on gout. — Considering in what manner the
arthritic Hypochondriac Symptoms appear &
in what Constitutions, viz. those that are most
moveable, it may be a question how far Cold
Bathing is adapted to them? The question ari-
ses from this Consideration that the proper
Cause of gout is in an inflammatory affection
of the Extremities, & we find Cold applied to the
feet to prevent this is attended wth the worst of
Consequences. Whether the Constant Use of Cold
Bathing may be of such Effect is probably at least
a question. I have actually known Cold bathing
attended wth bad Consequences in gouty Persons,
but at the same time I must acknowledge that
in many instances of arthritis, no doubt, Cold
Bathing has been practised wth Advantage. It
will require Discernment to say in wch of the two

Cure it will, or will not be proper; I have not found out a Solution to this question, but offer it as one that deserves to be solved. —

as to the other Species, "ab Inanitione", Emphractica", & a Suppressis Evacuationibus", all these admit of no remarks here, because they are particular Diseases, & may be considered as the chief Cause, & when removed the Hypochondriac Symptoms cease of Course. —

There are two other Species to be mentioned, "a Repulsis" from Spontaneous or artificial Eruptions or Ulcers on the Surface repelled or dried up. The Cure of this is a matter of difficult Practice. We commonly attempt it by endeavouring to raise some Evacuations near the Part affected, as by Issues or Setons; but this is often without effect. I see some instances in Savage &c if we could imitate &c Success would probably be more Effectual, viz, removing the Disease, when it was of a Contagious nature, as the Itch, by Inoculation, or getting a Person, who had the Disease, from whom the Patient might take a

Cure

new Infection; he tells us he made a perfect cure in this manner. I mention this fact as curious, tho' I cannot suggest the proper manner of conducting the Procefs. —

and lastly the Hypochond: Ailments "a Re= bre Interrupta". These I have more than once met wth & may observe they are of difficult manage= ment. They have however been cured upon the ge= neral Plan of Hypochondriacal Symptoms by constant & habitual Exercise, & those remedies wch restore the Determination of the System wch had been changed, sometimes to the Surface, by Sudorifics, as Dovers Powder; & I have met wth two Cases where I could still discern, tho' ob= scurely, marks of a Periodical Fever; Whenever that is the Case, I would still as before interrupt it by the use of the Bark, the only certain reme= dy we know of for obviating that tendency to Periodical returns. There are probably other methods of managing it, wch the Ancients seem to have been acquainted wth, tho' we are not.

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Celsus in Slow & Lingering Fevers advises the exciting the Various formal Paroxysms of them, to bring on a Horror & all the Symptoms that belong to these. He mentions Unction, Baths, & Friction for this purpose, wch I have not known imitated. ——

Cutaneous Eruptions

The first Case we shall treat of is that of many millar — Her Symptoms commonly concur in some degree of Swelling, Inflammation, & Pain (tho' however are often very inconsiderable) in the Part. after that appear small White Pustules, wch encrease, pour out a Purulent matter, w^h forms Crusts over the Part — sometimes new Pimples arise under this Crust sometimes without any new Pimples, there continues a constant oozing of a fatty Unctuous matter — Before the Eruption there is an anxiety, oppression, & some degree of Fever, w^h are also reproduced by a Retrocession of the Evacuation. but these Symptoms go off as soon as the Discharge from the affected Part returns — This Eruption appears generally in the Spring, & goes off when the Warm Weather comes on. It attaches chiefly Sanguine habits & those w^h smooth Skins. When it seizes Children, these are commonly of the Scrophulous or Cachetic disposition, the last is evident from their large prominent foreheads — It attaches generally

Of Cutaneous Eruptions

the Upper Parts, as the hairy Scalp, Face, Arms &c more than the lower Extremities, tho' sometimes the whole body is affected. — It occurs for the most part in Infancy, tho' this rule is not commonly general; I have known People of 40 years of age labouring under it. — When it is cured, it leaves no Cicatrix, only the Cuticle is thicker & remains scaly for some time afterwards. —

It appears to be the Disease of the Skin, termed by the greeks achnon, & by the Latins Favi. — Sauvage puts it under the genus of Tinea, a Class of Cachexia; but this Class is very imperfect, as it is difficultly distinguished from the affectus Superficiarii — The Tinea appears evidently to be an affection of the Bulbs of the hair, to which the Disease of wch we are now treating has no connection. Two of the Species of this genus are the same disease, viz the Tinea Lactea, & Volatica, the Diagnostics of each being very precarious. The Tinea Lactea, while Sucking, & the Volatica during Dentition; This last appears often without having any Connection wth Teething. This Disease is

+ This also spreads faster & leaves deeper Ulcerations than the Pocks.—

Of Cutaneous Eruptions

distinguished from the Herpes wch has a thinner & more Ichorous matter; from the Herpes Crustoms by the greater degree of acrimony in this last; It differs from the Scabies as this seizes generally the joints & is more Itchy.—

Tho' this is a disease of the Surface, it however seems to be connected wth the general System; as this is affected before the Eruption appears, wch Anxiety, Nausea, Fever &c, wch go off in proportion as the Eruption advances. These Symptoms also follow a repulsion of the Eruption Hence Authors have believed that a particular Acrimony existing in the fluids, & being deposited on different places, gave rise to the abovementioned Symptoms. Let us therefore consider how far Acrimony in the Fluids may be the Cause of this Disease. The common Proofs of Acrimony being present are not Conclusive, for tho' it appears on the Skin yet this by no means proves that it existed in the System in general. This is evident if we consider the generation of Pus after Wounds or Inflammations

Of Cutaneous Eruptions

which always takes place in the sound or morbid body. The Production of this Liquor depends on a peculiar Conformation of the Part, the Consequence of an Inflammation, & the Degree of Consistence & quality of this Pus is entirely owing to the different Constitution of the inflamed Part. Ulcers of the Legs are often very difficult to cure, notwithstanding a number of internal remedies have been exhibited for this purpose, in order to change the fluids as was supposed, especially while the member is kept in a depending Situation; but no sooner is the Leg placed in a horizontal Posture, the Ulcer soon changes its appearance & heals up with great facility. Here then we see an acrid fluid thrown out on the Surface which depends on the peculiar State of the affected Parts, without the least Supposition of its Preexistence in the Mass of fluids. — When we examine the Changes of the Secretions, we shall find these more owing to the particular State of the Secretory Organ, than to any taint of the fluids in general

Of Cutaneous Eruptions

Vomits if operate very strongly produce an encreased Secretion of greenish bile of a very acrid nature, tho before the Exhibition of the Vomit the System was in a perfectly healthy State — a Blow on the Head will produce a Vomiting & an encreased Secretion of Poracous Bile. In Catarrhal Cases what different Changes are induced on the Mucus both in Consistence & Colour by the different States of the Secreting Vessels. The Changes of Colour in the Gonorrhoal Discharge is owing chiefly to the Acrimony of the Stimulus irritating the mucous Duct & not to any greater Virulency in the Discharge — Pimples in the face are often the Consequence of drinking Water; they however go off if the Patient drinks Small Beer or Wine. In these Case there is no reason to suppose that any acrimony exists — In the Tinea where a humour exsudes from the whole hairy Scalp & forming Crusts, Mercurial, Antimonial & other Medicines are not of the least Service; Eradicating however the Bulbs of the Hair prove

a radical Cure; tho' it shews that the disease depends upon a topical affection of the roots of the Hair & not on any general acrimony—

If the humour does not continue to be discharged, but is repelled, various disorders arise in the system. But this is no proof that any acrimony existed in the general mass of Fluids. all the same Disorders arise from a suppression of the menstrual Flux, yet no body will venture to say that any thing acrid is thrown off by this Evacuation.— When the Discharge of mucus from the nose in consequence of taking Snuff is by any means obstructed, various Rheumatic affections of the head, Toothach, Vertigo, & sometimes Confusion of the Senses have sometimes been the Consequence, yet surely no acrimony can be alledged in this Case — all the above mentioned Symptoms may be accounted for from the Changed Ballance of the Circulation. And the Resorption can only be considered as a Colla-

tural Effect without in anyway acting as a Cause. But there also is something else in the Determination besides the quantity wch is necessary to produce these Effects; since we see a greater quantity of Fluids sent to particular Parts without any topical Eruption appearing. Here however there is no occasion to suppose a peculiar acrimony exists in the fluids. I have seen several instances of nausea, Sickness, Oppression &c followed by an Eruption of red spots on the Skin, produced by a small quantity of Lobster taken into the Stomach, wch continued as long as this Substance remained in the Stomach; but if it was thrown up by Vomiting, the above Symptoms disappeared. The same Phenomena have arisen from Crabs Eyes taken into the Stomach. Here then there is no reason to imagine that acrimony existed, as the Effects were produced before we could possibly have conceived that these Substances reached the Sanguineous System,

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& must therefor have produced their Effects by inducing a topical affection on the Surface— Hence in the many instances recited above we have no reason to believe that an acrimony was present in the fluids tho' being deposited on particular Parts was the Cause of the Eruptions—

General maxims are however very hurtfull in Physick, & it would be as absurd to deny that acrimony exists in no Case, as to say that it is the Cause of every affection.— We before said that Ulcers in the Legs resisted the Powers of the most Efficacious remedies while the Leg was in a depending situation; but when laid horizontally, it often heals without the aid of any remedy. There are some Ulcers as in Scorbutic habits, tho' evidently depend on the diseased state of the fluids, & tho' are only to be cured by medicines given internally— In the Syphilis or Lues Venerea there is evidently an acrimony received into the System tho' is the Cause of that Disease; and in the Scrophula there is

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probably a peculiar acrimony, tho' this does not exert its Effects unless under certain Circumstances. The Leprosy is undoubtedly owing to a peculiar acrimony; as are also all Contagious Diseases, wch not only affect the Nervous System, but also partly assimilates the fluids to its own nature. Some Poisons have also this Effect as the Rabies Canina. Several diseases are owing to the absorption of an acrimony formed by a topical affection. as the Hectic from the absorption of Purulent matter; & in Cancers wch arise merely from a bruise, when Ulcerated, there is a quantity of that acrid fluid received into the Blood wch soon infects the whole System, & produces Cancers in other Parts of the Body. Hence acrimony often also exists in the System, & is the Cause of several Diseases.—

The nature of this acrimony however does not much assist us in curing the Diseases of wch it is productive, as we are entirely ignorant of its qualities. What do we know concerning the Nature of that peculiar acrimony wch is the Cause

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of the Scurvy or Lues Venerea? — In these diseases mercurials, Antimonials, & mineral Waters do not act so much by evacuating the morbid acrimony, as by keeping up the natural Secretions, a healthy Determination of the blood. In the Cure of the Small Pox we only promote the Evacuations, wch Nature makes Use of to throw off the offending acrimony, or obviate the Effects of this upon the Nervous System till that become accustomed to it — Hence in those diseases wch we know are owing to a peculiar acrimony; this however does not in the least direct us in our method of Cure since we are entirely unacquainted wth the nature of the offending matter —

The Cause of our Patients disease seems to be a topical affection of the Part. as the Savage thinks that the Sebacious glands are the seat of the Disease. It does not seem to be seated deep below the Skin otherwise the Symptoms of Fever would be more Violent — This topical affection seems to depend on a peculiar Determi-

nation of the fluids to the affected part; When this Determination is turned on the Internal Parts, nausea, Vomiting, & the Symptoms of Fever are the Consequence — Pimples in the Face are often the Effect of such a determination where there is no reason to suppose any Acrimony exists. I knows a Gentleman subject to such an Eruption on his face wch is greatly varied by different things wch he eats. They are greatly encreased immediately after eating Fish, wch before these Substances can be supposed to have entered the blood. They are removed by Fever & other Diseases wch he has laboured under, but appear as soon as he is recovered — These Eruptions generally go off in the Summer when the Perspiration is more abundant. — I have therefore attempted the Cure of our Patient by antimonials wch keep up a free & equable Determination to the Skin. as these however by themselves are found often to be ineffectual, I have joined a mercurial not as a Laxative, but applied topically so as to reach the Blood & Secretories —

Of Cutaneous Eruptions

When these Medicines operate considerably by Stool, their Effects in Cutaneous Diseases are generally less considerable.—

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Clinical Lectures

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By

Wm. Cullen M.D.

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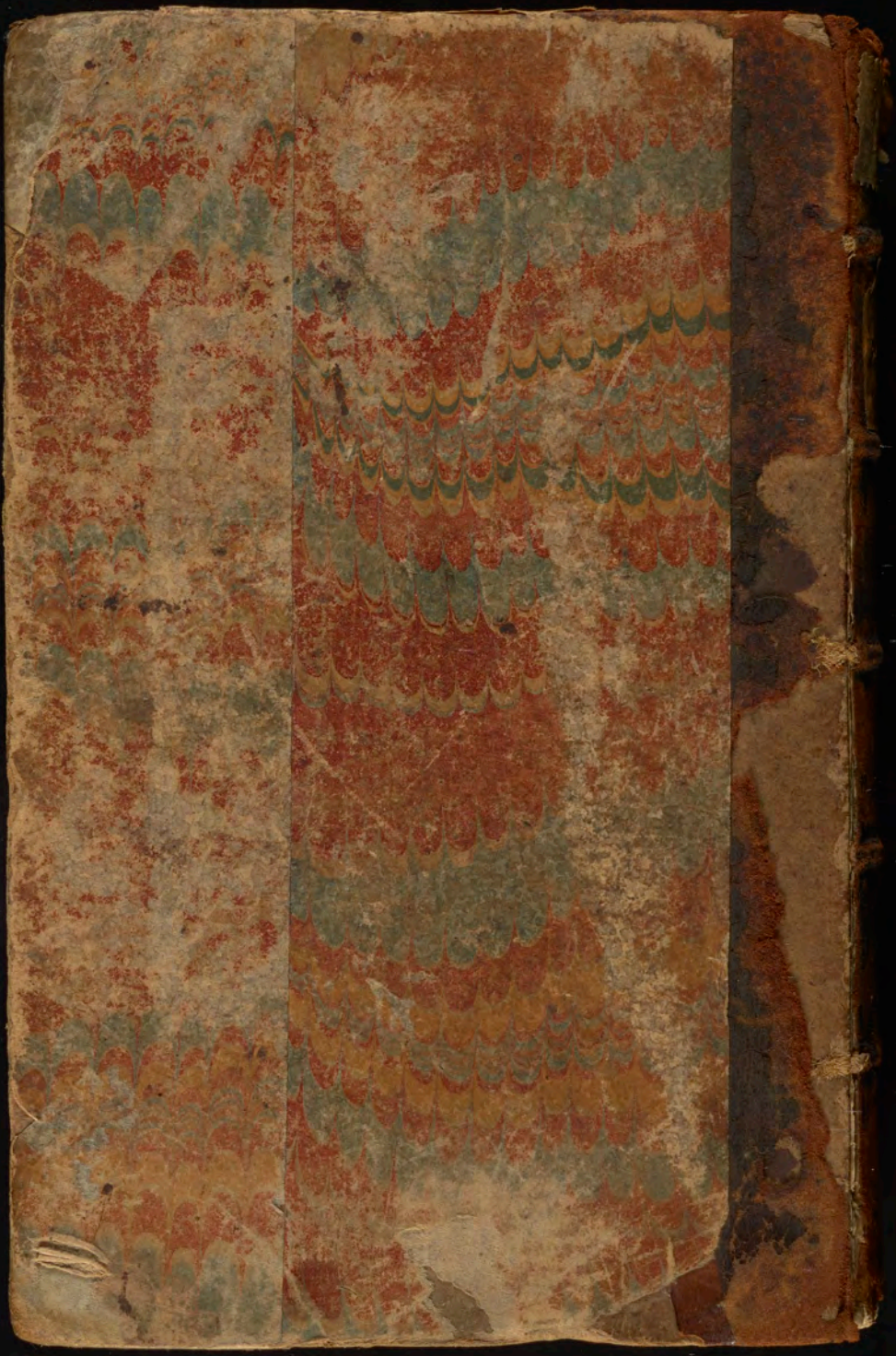

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